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# ARAB TIMES

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1988

RAJAB 21, 1408 AH

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**Meteorite**  
BERLIN, (UPI): A small meteorite hit a greenhouse in Trebbia, about 15 miles (24 km) south of Berlin March 1, the East German news service ADN reported.

**Appendectomy**  
WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor had her appendix removed at Bethesda Naval Hospital and is doing well, the court said yesterday.

**Hunger strike**  
NICOSIA, (Reuters): Six prisoners on hunger strike in a Cypriot jail, one of them a Briton convicted of a commando attack, refused food for a fifth straight day yesterday, officials said.

**Hostage-taking**  
GENEVA, (Reuters): The United Nations human rights commission yesterday said hostage-taking was hateful but increasingly used as a means of political pressure.

**Italian freed**  
ROME, (Reuters): Libya freed an Italian held in jail in Benghazi yesterday, following Tripoli's decision to release all imprisoned foreigners, the Foreign Ministry said.

**Explosion**  
RANGOON, (UPI): A loud explosion shook the Czechoslovak Embassy and startled the neighbourhood late yesterday, but no injuries were reported and the cause of the blast was under investigation.

**Hussein in talks with Saddam**  
BAGHDAD, March 8, (Reuters): Jordan's King Hussein arrived in Baghdad today and went into talks with President Saddam Hussein.

The King, a close ally of Iraq, is consulting Arab leaders on a US Middle East peace plan on the Arab-Israeli conflict put forward by Secretary of State George Shultz last week.

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○ بینوایان کو سوت اور امریکی کام میں براہ راست مذاکرات  
○ بھارتی حکومت کی طرف سے پنجاب میں ہنگامی حالات کے خاتمہ کی دھمکی  
○ سوت یونین نے سلامتی کونسل کا اجلاس طلب کر لیا  
○ بھارت کے فوجی طیارہ کو حادثہ  
○ ادبیات و پروفیشن

## WEATHER

PARTLY cloudy weather with moderate northerly wind and a chance for rain.  
State of sea: Moderate to rough.  
High water: 3.00 am, 3.00 pm  
Low water: 9.00 am, 9.00 pm  
Sunrise: 6.05 am  
Sunset: 5.53 pm  
Maximum temperature recorded:  
Kuwait: 23°C 73°F  
Ahmad: 19°C 66°F  
Fahala: 21°C 70°F  
Maximum temperature expected:  
Kuwait: 20°C 68°F  
Ahmad: 18°C 64°F  
Fahala: 18°C 64°F  
Minimum temperature recorded:  
Kuwait: 13°C 55°F  
Ahmad: 16°C 61°F  
Fahala: 15°C 59°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 83 per cent  
Ahmad: 68 per cent  
Fahala: 89 per cent  
Maximum humidity expected:  
Kuwait: 85 per cent  
Ahmad: 88 per cent  
Fahala: 90 per cent

## Sheikh Sabah hopes UN efforts will end conflict

# Soviet Union acts to halt war of the cities

KUWAIT'S acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday expressed hopes that UN and superpower efforts would lead to a total halt of the Iraq-Iran war.

Sheikh Sabah was responding to a question by reporters on the Soviet Union's proposal on Monday to the Security Council to meet immediately to end the war of the cities.

"We hope that the proposal would be broader to end the Gulf war for ever and not only to halt the war of the cities," he said.

The Soviet Union has asked UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to send an emissary to Iran and Iraq to stop the two countries from attacking each other's cities with deadly long-range missiles.

Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Belonogov said at the United Nations that Moscow was calling for an immediate Security Council meeting to deal with the escalation of the war of the cities.

### Useful

"A special representative from the secretary-general may be useful and bring results because the situation demands a very firm and constant contact with both capitals and the United Nations," Belonogov told reporters after council members held private consultations.

Perez de Cuellar said that the Soviet suggestion was an "interesting idea" that should be considered. He said he has no one in mind yet and pointed out that the last special representative had been Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, who was assassinated in February 1986.

### Dimension

Belonogov said "recent moves" by Iran toward accepting Security Council resolution 598 that calls for an immediate ceasefire in the 7-1/2-year-old war should not be disregarded.

"This morning I visited the secretary-general and the president of the Security Council and requested both of them in the most energetic terms to exert the influence of their high office in order to assure restraint by the belligerents and the immediate

cessation of the war of the cities," Belonogov told reporters.

The Soviet official said the missile attacks have taken a "new dimension" in the war with unforeseen "political and psychological consequences."

"Innocent people are becoming victims of the war of cities," he said. "It is in the interest of both nations and the United Nations to do what is possible to put an end to it."

He said the Soviet Union wants the "speediest" implementation of resolution 598, adopted unanimously by the 15-nation body last July, which calls for an immediate ceasefire, troops withdrawal, peace talks and determination of responsibility in the war that began in September 1980.

### Alterations

Iraq said it would accept the ceasefire declaration if Iran does the same. Iran has not yet accepted the resolution.

But Speaker of the Iranian Parliament Hojjatolislam Hashemi Rafsanjani has said Iran has not rejected the resolution 598 but has asked for alterations in the sequence of its articles.

Iran agreed with de Cuellar on introducing some alterations to the sequence of the resolution and also agreed on beginning to implement the said resolution, he said.

Rafsanjani, charged today that the United States or France helped modify Soviet-made Iraqi missiles to give them the range to hit Tehran.

In Washington, the State Department dismissed an Iranian response to the UN call for a ceasefire as a "non-paper" and called for the United Nations to move ahead with an arms embargo against Iran.

White House said China had offered strong support for a United Nations arms embargo on Iran to enforce a Security Council ceasefire order in the Gulf war.

Spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian offered support for the US-sponsored embargo resolution during a 40-minute meeting with President Reagan.

## Manila accused of human rights abuses

LONDON, March 8, (Reuters): Amnesty International has accused the Philippine government and government-backed forces of carrying out unlawful killings, including mutilations and a beheading, in the name of preventing a major armed insurgency.

A report released by the international human rights organisation documented scores of cases of Philippine men, women and children whose rights it said had been brutally violated.

Amnesty said the unlawful killings had become the most serious human rights problem in the country since mid-1987.

"Most of the victims were targeted either for their membership of legal left-wing organisations or their suspected political beliefs," the report said.

Many killings reported to Amnesty followed acts of violence by opposition forces. In Manila, the head of the government's presidential commission on human rights described the Amnesty report as exaggerated and one-sided.

## Blast outside Saudia office

KUALA LUMPUR, March 8, (Reuters): A bomb went off yesterday outside the office here of Saudi Arabian Airlines, injuring two people, police said.

The home-made bomb was concealed in a plastic package and went off when an employee

## GCC citizens may trade in Kuwaiti shares

THE Commerce and Industry Minister, Faisal Al Khaled has said Kuwait is about to issue a decision allowing citizens of GCC states to trade in Kuwaiti shares.

Speaking to a Kuwaiti daily Al Khaled said a draft decision has been submitted to the cabinet and referred to the financial committee for the final touch. "It will be issued shortly," he said.

Al Khaled said the government is seriously searching for solutions to activate economic sectors in the country. He cited these sectors as real estate, trading, and stock markets.

### Finalise

He pointed out that the Kuwaiti bourse is about to finalise some studies on developing the financial market.

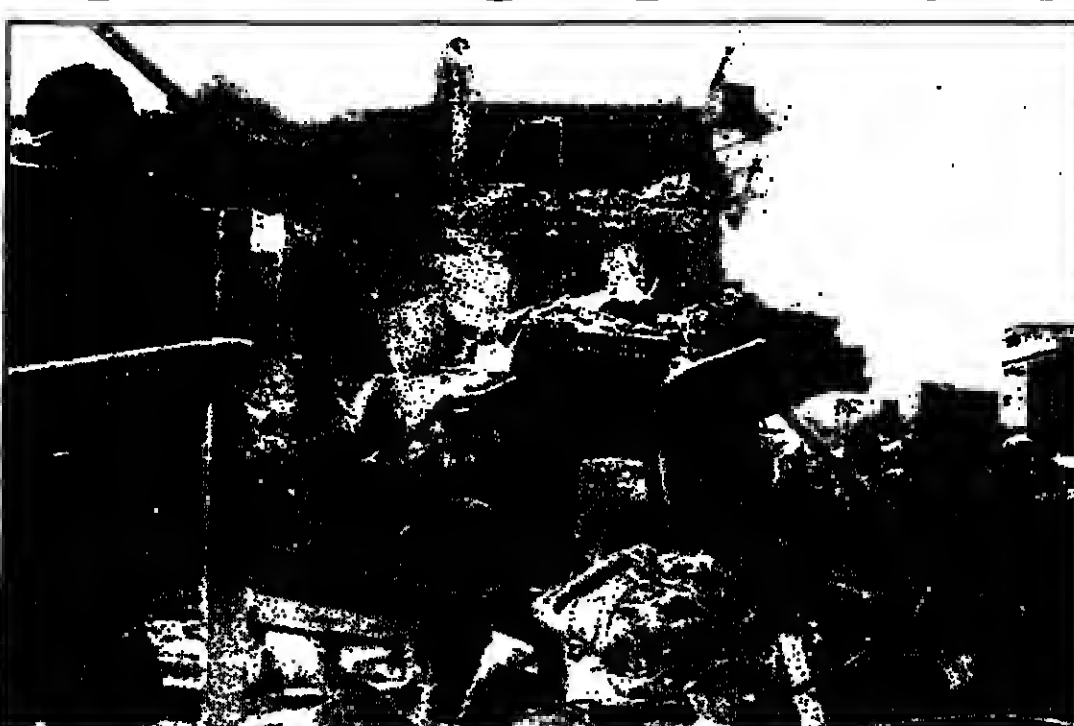
Meanwhile, the director of Kuwait's securities market Hisham Al Otaibi, said yesterday the market had prepared a draft resolution on dealing in futures, and "it is ready for implementation."

He noted, however, that the investor cannot benefit from that system as long as complete financial statements of some listed companies in the market are not available.

## 12 killed in plane crash

NEW DELHI, March 8, (Reuters): An Indian military transport plane caught fire in mid-air today and crashed into a village in Orissa state killing all nine passengers and three villagers, All-India Radio said.

The Soviet-built AN-12 burst into flames shortly after taking off from the eastern city of Cuttack, it said.



Picture shows destruction caused by an Iraqi missile raid on Tehran. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Missile duel continues

# Iraq raises stakes with raid on tanker

BAGHDAD, March 8, (Agencies): Iraq fired two more missiles at Iranian cities today and ended a three-week lull in attacks on shipping with a reported raid near Iran's Gulf coast.

Iraq fired a missile into a Baghdad neighbourhood shortly after midnight and launched rockets on the northern Iraqi city of Mosul and the southern town of Al Amarah.

A Baghdad military spokesman said Iraqi jets hit "a very large naval target" — Iraq's term for a supertanker or big merchant ship — in the morning.

### Erupted

The Iraqi report of an attack on a ship in the Gulf was the first since Feb 16. The last confirmed Iraqi raid on shipping was on Feb 9 when jets hit the Iranian tanker Shirko.

The spokesman said ground-to-ground missiles were fired at Tehran and Esfahan, 200 miles (320 km) south of the Iranian capital, in the latest attack in the war of the cities which erupted on Feb 27.

The Iraqi spokesman said Iraq also fired a missile at Iran's holy city of Qom, "to punish the Iranian rulers for their aggression and for rejecting US Security Council resolution 598."

The missile was the third aimed at Qom in the present round of the war of the cities.

### Damage

The spokesman said a missile was fired at Tehran at 4:07 pm (13:07 GMT), about half an hour after the raid on Esfahan.

Esfahan, which has a substantial industrial base as well as many historical buildings and mosques, suffered severe damage in bombing raids in a previous round of attacks on population centres early last year.

The spokesman said Iran fired another missile at the northern Iraqi city of Mosul this afternoon, killing or wounding an unspecified number of civilians and damaging property.

The spokesman said an Iranian missile hit Baghdad today, causing civilian deaths and injuries and damaging property.

Iraq, which has reported nearly 300 dead and about 1,000 wounded in the attacks, refuses to accept the UN ceasefire until Baghdad is identified as the aggressor.

In the missile exchanges which began on Monday last week, Iraq has fired 43 rockets at Iranian cities — most of them at Tehran — while Iran has aimed about 25 at Baghdad.

Scandinavian diplomats based in Tehran have started leaving with their families because of the threat to their lives from Iraqi missile attacks, officials in the Nordic capitals said today.

The Norwegian, Danish, Swedish and Finnish embassies in the Iranian capital would remain open with reduced staffs, the officials said.

They added that no evacuations of Scandinavians were planned from Baghdad.

In New Delhi, the government said that preparations are underway to evacuate the families of Indian diplomats based in Tehran because of the threat to their lives from Iraqi missile attacks.

**Oil slick**

BAHRAIN, (Reuters): A mysterious Gulf oil slick is threatening the coastlines of Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, environmental experts said yesterday.

## Two Palestinians die in fresh surge of violence

RAMALLAH, West Bank, March 8, (Reuters): Two Palestinians died in a fresh surge of violence that swept the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip today, one day after the hijacking of an Israeli bus in which three civilians and three Arab commandos died.

As rioters and troops fought a pitched battle around the hospital in this West Bank city, the body of a 28-year-old man shot in the heart was brought in from the nearby village of Mazra'a Al Sharqiya, doctors said.

Earlier, a Palestinian working for the Israeli police was found beaten to death, his hands and legs bound, in the Aqbat Jaber refugee camp outside Jericho, police said. It was the second killing of an accused collaborator in two weeks.

### Curfew

The Army imposed a curfew on the camp after the killing of Nahil Jumna Farab, 30, a policeman who worked in Bethlehem.

Statements by the United National Leadership of the Uprising have warned Palestinians working for the Israeli police and security services to quit their jobs or face popular retribution.

The deaths brought to at least 88 the unofficial Palestinian death toll since an uprising erupted in the occupied territories last Dec 9.

In Ramallah, hundreds of mainly teenaged demonstrators, their faces covered with checkered headscarves and surgical masks, stoned troops from the roof and grounds of the hospital.

Soldiers fired tear gas and rubber bullets into the hospital grounds.

A Reuters correspondent was injured in the leg by a tear gas canister while watching soldiers charge protesters outside the Ramallah Hospital.

The clashes erupted after the Army broke up a peaceful march by some 300 women carrying Palestinian flags through the city centre to mark International Women's Day, witnesses said.

In Mazra'a Al Sharqiya, villagers said Israelis from the nearby Jewish settlement of Shilo shot dead Khader Abdel Hamid Sharari, a local butcher, when they opened fire while clearing a stone barricade from the road.

An Army spokesman said another Israeli shot and wounded a Palestinian at the Balata refugee camp outside Nablus when his car became caught in a violent demonstration.

The spokesman reported other violent protests in the cities of Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarem and Kalkilya in the West Bank.

The new violence appeared to be triggered by yesterday's hijacking by Palestinian commandos of a civilian bus taking workers from Beersheba to Israel's secret nuclear reactor near the Negev desert town of Dimona.

In Ramallah, gangs of high-school girls taunted Israeli soldiers from behind barricades, chanting: "Remember Beersheba-Dimona, three dead."

The hijack traumatised Israelis and caused a backlash in the Israel press.

Four Israeli officers whose car was commandeered by the commandos at gunpoint before they hijacked the bus were court-martialed and jailed for 35 days for failing to carry weapons.

## Assad rejects US peace plan

DAMASCUS, March 8, (Reuters): President Hafez Al Assad, in a speech today marking 25 years of Baath Party rule in Syria, dismissed the latest US peace proposals for the Middle East and indicated a long struggle with Israel lay ahead.

Referring to the US plan put to Arab and Israeli leaders by Secretary of State George Shultz, Assad told an anniversary rally: "I can say in brief (that) they are the same proposals, same spirit, same essence though the words were different... (there is) nothing new in the matter."

### Mixed

The plan envisaging an international conference and limited self-rule for Palestinians received a mixed reaction during a nine-day tour of the region by Shultz which ended last week.

Assad, who has ruled Syria with a firm hand since 1970, indicated that a long, uncompromising struggle against Israel lay ahead.

"Do not be deceived... Israel does not want peace for Arabs. It wants the capitulation of Arabs," he said.

"I say to my Arab brothers... if we are unable to achieve victory today... why this rush to impose defeat on ourselves?"

Thousands of high school students in para-military uniforms raised clenched fists and chanted: "You are in our hearts. Our blood and soul we sacrifice for you," as the president arrived at the indoor



Assad stadium for this 2-1/2-hour speech.

Meanwhile, in occupied Jerusalem a spokesman said, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will present his own Middle East peace plan in Washington next week as a counter-proposal to the US peace initiative.

"The prime minister is preparing his own proposal, a peace plan he will submit to President Reagan and Shultz when he meets them in Washington between March 14 and 17," spokesman Avi Pazner said.

Shamir is currently drafting his plan but details will not be divulged before his departure, Pazner said.

## Saudis warn Iran against disturbances

ABU DHABI, March 8, (UPI): Saudi Arabia warning Iran against a repeat of last year's bloody riots in Makkah, said it would block any attempt by the Islamic fundamentalist regime to disrupt the "sacredness and purity" of the hajj in July.

A Saudi statement issued yesterday said the government was disturbed by Iran's announcement it would send more than 150,000 pilgrims for the hajj, season "even without the advance permission from Saudi authorities."

More than 400 people were

killed in bloody clashes during hajj last year.

The Saudi statement, issued after a cabinet meeting chaired by King Fahd, said last year's Iranian pilgrims were chanting "atheistic slogans" inappropriate to the religious occasion. Saudi Arabia views politics as a taboo topic at the hajj, while Iran sees it as a time to discuss politics.

The Saudi statement also said the last year's Iranian pilgrims included "masses of Revolutionary Guards and agents," referring to the fanatical followers of Iranian leader Ayatollah

Khomeini.

"We tell them unequivocally that... Saudi Arabia has taken measures that will prevent any individual or group from any action that does not conform with the sacredness and purity of the hajj," the state-run Saudi Press agency quoted Information Minister Ali Al Shaer as saying.

The agency, monitored in Abu Dhabi, said Saudi Arabia has received "thousands" of messages of support from Muslim leaders and scholars to "prevent a repetition of such rioting with all available means."

## Oxfam workers freed in Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon, March 8, (Reuters): A radical Palestinian group freed two Oxfam charity workers, Briton Peter Coleridge and Syrian Omar Trabulsi, in Sidon today and said they had been held for security reasons.

The two officials of the British-based charity were released at the house of Sunni Muslim leader Mustapha Saad, whose Popular Liberation Army (PLA) militia controls the southern Lebanese port.

Walid Khaled, an official of the Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) who escorted the two to Saad's house, told reporters the two "were held for security

reasons. They were not kidnapped."

The FRC is headed by Abu Nidal, accused by several Western governments of terrorist activities.

Khaled said Coleridge, 44, and Trabulsi, 31, were arrested for taking photographs of the Palestinian Ain Al Hilweh camp "which is always target to Israeli military attacks."

"I committed a mistake by taking photographs at Ain Al Hilweh and did not realise the security measures at the camp," Coleridge, Oxfam's Middle East coordinator and a fluent Arabic speaker, told reporters.

He was clean-shaven and looked relaxed and in good health.

"The first day of captivity and three hours after we were taken we were moved to another location but I don't know where because I was blindfolded," he said.

"Omar and I were kept in separate rooms," he added.

Trabulsi heads Oxfam's operations in Lebanon.

British Embassy First Secretary Derick Bleakley said: "If these reports are true we are naturally delighted by the news and are grateful for Mustapha Saad for what he has done."



Coleridge



## INTERNATIONAL

## Witness reveals cover-up in Aquino murder probe

MANILA, March 8, (Reuters): A former Army investigator who probed the 1983 assassination of Benigno Aquino said today his team was ordered to rig its findings.

In the first direct testimony of a military cover-up of the murder, Pedro Aquino told a Manila court he suppressed an apparent confession by a soldier that he shot the opposition leader and said affidavits of other witnesses were changed in the presence of high Army officers.

**Order**  
Aquino, a retired second lieutenant in a military investigating unit and no relation to the slain politician, said senior officers made it clear the inquiry should say that alleged communist gunman Rolando Galman was the assassin.

Chief prosecutor Raul Gonzalez said the order was "part of a total cover-up" to hide the military's role in the killing of then President Ferdinand Marcos' chief rival.

Galman was killed by soldiers immediately after Aquino was shot on his return from exile in the United States.

"Our instruction is to make it appear that the assassin is supposed to be the dead person lying there (Galman)... that we should help the soldiers who are being investigated," Pedro Aquino said at a trial of 37 men charged in the murder.

Marcos said Galman was the assassin. But widespread belief

that the murder was a military conspiracy sparked national unrest that led to Marcos' overthrow in 1986 and the rise of Aquino's widow, Corazon, to the presidency.

The witness identified constable Rogelio Moreno as the soldier who made what the prosecution called a "clear admission" he was the assassin.

The witness said he "bluntly" asked Moreno if he was the one who shot the opposition leader. Aquino said Moreno replied: "I could not do anything, sir, I just followed orders."

"He looked sorrowful... I told him, 'it's enough that you told me the truth,'", the witness said.

He said he promised Moreno he would keep his statement "off the record" in line with orders from senior officers.

Aquino said the orders for a cover-up came from squad leader captain Ruben Zacarias who suggested they came from higher up the chain of command.

**Rigged**

Thirty-four soldiers and three civilians, including a former Marcos cabinet minister, are on trial. A Marcos-appointed court in 1985 acquitted 26 original defendants but the Supreme Court ordered a new hearing, saying Marcos had rigged the acquittals.

In the retrial, successive eyewitnesses have suggested Aquino was shot in the head by a soldier following him down the steps as he left the aircraft.

## Roh rams through new election bill

SEOUL, March 8, (Reuters): President Roh Tae-Woo's party rammed an electoral bill through South Korea's National Assembly today, with guards shielding the Speaker from angry opposition members.

A parliamentary spokesman said passage of the bill, laying down rules for election of a new 299-member assembly by the end of April, took just one minute.

Opposition members rushed the podium in an attempt to block opening of the session but plainclothes guards and government members formed a human barrier while the speaker quickly announced the passage of the bill.

"Is this the start of Roh Tae-Woo politics?" shouted one opposition MP wrestling with a guard in the main chamber. The president, inaugurated on Feb 25, pledged to end the authoritarian policies of his predecessor Chun Doo Hwan.

Roh's Democratic Justice Party took its blitz action early this morning after spending several hours overnight struggling with opposition groups seeking amendments to the bill.

"It clearly shows the Roh Tae-Woo administration has no intention of putting into practice its promises for democratic politics and national harmony," a spokesman of the main opposition Renmin Democratic Party (RDP) said.

The RDP and Kim Dae-Jung's party for peace and democracy said the bill contained "venomous provisions" that could allow the ruling camp to rig the poll. Both groups claim Roh's Dec 16 election win was achieved by massive fraud, a charge the authorities deny.

Rob's party expressed regret over the assembly move but said in a statement that it was "an unavoidable decision" as the deadline for passage of the bill was midnight today.

### Handshakes

HONG KONG, March 8, (Reuters): Handshaking should be replaced by bowing when people greet one another to avoid the spread of hepatitis, a Chinese official said.

## London consulate takeover lasts six hours

# Noriega-men surrender to police

LONDON, March 8, (Agencies): Seven security men hired by Panama's ambassador seized the Panamanian consulate in the name of military leader Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, but surrendered today after a six-hour occupation.

Britain's Foreign Office summoned Panamanian Ambassador Guillermo Vega to explain why he ordered the seizure of the consulate, a tiny building near London's famed Fleet Street.

Panama has both an embassy and a consulate in London.

Vega is believed to back Noriega in his power struggle with ousted Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle, supported by the consulate staff.

**Authorised**  
Vega, who visited the consulate early today, was asked by a reporter why the security men had forced their way into the consulate.

"They didn't force their way,"

Vega said. "They were authorised by me to take over our premises. They had my authority — because this place was full of intruders who did not belong to the Panamanian embassy."

During the takeover, the unarmed security men blocked the entrance to the consulate with a Land Rover, broke part of a glass door and forced out the consulate staff, who voiced support for ousted Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle over Noriega.

**Takeover**  
No violence or injuries were reported.

The seven unarmed men — all private security men with British nationalities — were arrested by police who did not enter the building because legally it is Panamanian territory, police sources said.

The men surrendered peacefully when they left the building at 2 am today — six

hours after their takeover began.

Four staff members, three women and a man, were expelled by the group who claimed they were there with the official support of Noriega, acting under the orders of Ambassador Guillermo Vega. The embassy is located in a different building.

Police declined to comment if charges would be filed.

The takeover followed the refusal by the consul, Eduardo Arango to give up his post despite being fired by Noriega — who is locked in a struggle for the leadership of Panama.

**Condemned**  
Mayra Paredes, an evicted consul worker, said the occupiers were sent by Vega whom she described as "an intimate friend" of Noriega, while Arango is a supporter of President Eric Arturo Delvalle.

The two Panamanian leaders are locked in a power struggle intensified after the United

States indicted Noriega for using his position to sponsor cocaine smuggling.

Consul Arango, who was not present when the men arrived, condemned the takeover.

"I didn't think things like this could happen in a civilised country," he said.

With the agreement of the Panamanian ambassador, police shuttered the consul up and a notice was put on its door, saying it was "closed until further notice," authorities said.

**Reconciliation**  
Arango requested a meeting with Foreign Office officials to try to get the consulate reopened.

But they declined to intervene saying it was a matter strictly for the Panamanian government since the consulate is Panamanian territory, Foreign Office sources said.

Police who had cordoned off the consulate's street with plastic

tape and towed away the Land Rover during the takeover remained on guard in front of the building.

Delvalle and opposition groups yesterday said they would set up a government of national reconciliation aimed at ousting Noriega.

Delvalle, said in a written statement the government would comprise Panamanians from all sectors and seek support from the armed forces.

"If our proposal ... is not backed by the armed forces... the alternative is chaos, despair, hunger and misery," the statement, also signed by Vice-President Roderick Esquivel, said.

The statements, handed out at a news conference in Panama City, marked the first time the opposition groups have joined with the ousted president, who was appointed by Noriega in 1985.

## Khomeini unveils women in films

PARIS, March 8, (DPA): Iran's leader Ayatollah Khomeini is reported to have lifted the nine-year-old ban imposed on the appearance of unveiled women in Iranian films.

The decision is said to be contained in a "fatwa," or religious edict cancelling all previous ordinances.

According to exiled Iranian film makers and writers in Paris, the "fatwa" was signed and sealed in January and made public in Tehran at the end of a week-long film festival marking the ninth anniversary of the Islamic revolution.

The edict is reported to state that women could appear without veils if their film roles required that. They should, nevertheless, be "properly dressed" and not "behave in such a way that might incite the faithful to feelings of lust."

**Impeded**

The problem of the veil had prevented many film-makers from tackling a variety of themes. Even Western women had to appear with a "chador" or Islamic headgear in some films, a restriction which impeded realism.

The Ayatollah's "fatwa" is said to invite cinema-goers to regard films as an instrument of education. "Muslims should not look at women on the screen with coveting eyes full of lust."

The move has been cautiously welcomed by many Iranian film-makers, including some who have gone into exile since the revolution.

"This is a good move," says Nasser Farzin, one of the exiles. "But we have to wait and see how it is put into effect. More fanatical mullahs might simply prevent the application of the new edict."

Meanwhile, new rules on film censorship have been announced in Tehran.

Mohammad Beheshti, who heads the state commission for financing film production, said last week a film which has had its screenplay approved in advance would no longer risk being banned after its completion.

The commission would send representatives to film sets to make sure that there were no deviations from the approved screenplay.

## 40 killed in Soviet shelling

GENEVA, March 8, (Agencies): UN mediator Diego Cordovez said today negotiations on the Afghan conflict are well advanced, but he cautioned against expecting an immediate breakthrough.

"You can't expect a breakthrough every day," he told journalists, advising them to use this week to go sightseeing.

Pakistan's chief delegate, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani, said the talks were not stalled.

**Insisting**

"Certainly not. Otherwise why would I keep coming every day?" Noorani said as he arrived for two hours of talks.

Agreement has been reached on the broad outlines of a United Nations plan, including the withdrawal of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops, Cordovez says.

Pakistan, however, is insisting

## Afghan talks advance: UN

on the replacement of the Soviet-backed Afghan government with a new coalition palatable enough to persuade some five million Afghan refugees to return home.

It is not clear whether or how actively this is being discussed in the talks.

The rebels, not part of the talks, say they will continue to fight not only till the Russians leave but also till the government of President Najibullah falls.

Pakistan has left open the possibility of agreeing to the UN plan before a new coalition is installed, but is demanding progress toward a new government.

After morning sessions, Cordovez has generally met US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Robert Peck and Soviet Ambassador-at-large Nikolai Komoyev, official sources said.

Western diplomats in

Islamabad said today that at least 40 civilians were killed in Soviet shelling of Afghan villages last week and an undetermined number of people died in a bomb blast on Sunday at the Education Ministry in Kabul.

The diplomats, quoting sources in Kabul, said the artillery attack nine days ago and clashes between Soviet troops and rebel guerrillas left the street of one village north of Kabul littered with dead.

One report said the shelling may have been in retaliation for a Muslim attack on a Soviet unit that reportedly abducted an Afghan girl from one of the villages. The abduction occurred on Feb 29 near Chankar, the provincial capital of Parwan province, 35 miles (56 km) north of Kabul, the diplomats said in separate briefings on the Afghan war.

## Ershad critic stopped

DHAKA, March 8, (Reuters): Dhaka turned back a plane today about to take an arch-opponent of President Hossain Mohammad Ershad to an international conference in Australia, his family said.

A police source said Dr Kamal Hossain, a senior member of the Awami League opposition party, planned to use a conference of jurists in Sydney to criticise Ershad and parliamentary elections which the opposition said were rigged.

Hossain, a former foreign minister who wrote Bangladesh's constitution, was taken off a Thai international flight, family sources said. Police ordered the plane back to the airport terminal as it was about to take off for Bangkok.

Hossain was later freed. He could not be reached for comment.

The Awami League and 20 other opposition parties boycotted the elections last Thursday which they dubbed a "farce and a fraud."

They have waged a campaign of strikes and protests since November aimed at toppling Ershad.

### Meningitis

KHARTOUM, March 8, (Reuters): Sudan today declared its capital, Khartoum, an epidemic area, saying 600 people had contracted meningitis and 20 had died.

## Sikhs condemn plan to impose emergency

CHANDIGARH, March 8, (Agencies): Sikh leaders condemned today an Indian government threat to impose emergency rule in Punjab if Sikh separatists rejected its peace overtures.

In another development, the militant-controlled committee that administers Sikh temples in Punjab selected as their religion's highest priest, the nephew of slain secessionist leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale.

The Sikh temple management committee selected Jashir Singh Rode, a Sikh fundamentalist, to head the Akal Takht, Sikhdom's highest temporal seat.

Rode is scheduled to assume the prestigious and powerful position tomorrow during a meeting called by militants in the Golden Temple of Amritsar.

Former Punjab Chief Minister Prakash Singh Badal denounced the threatened use of "dracon-

ian" emergency laws in the northern states where extremists are fighting for a Sikh "Bhadrachal". More than 330 people have been killed there this year.

Senior officials said today the government had taken a calculated risk in announcing concessions to extremists and would not hesitate to take stringent steps if they failed to bring a political solution.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi last week freed five Sikh high priests detained for nearly two years. He also released 40 of 350 Sikhs held without trial since the Indian Army stormed the Golden Temple in Amritsar.

Badal said: "The government is adopting a stick-and-carrot policy. It has taken a small step by freeing the priests and 40 others but it has also threatened to use Draconian emergency laws."

## Seoul aims at brushing up image for Olympics

SEOUL, March 8, (Reuters): South Korea plans a crackdown on harsh shops offering "lewd services" in the run-up to the Seoul Summer Olympics, health officials said today.

As part of a campaign to dilute Seoul's image as a "sex capital," men's hairdressing salons near the Olympic complex and in tourist areas will be obliged to remove partitions, curtains and soft lighting.

**Indecent**  
The officials said incentives to barbers towing the line would include "model barbershop" designations and a reduction in water rates.

Salon owners whose staff con-

tinued to provide intimate massage and other lewd services would face severe punishment, possibly including loss of their trading licence.

A recent survey of 258 men's hair salons in Seoul and five other cities, quoted by the Korea Herald, showed that 35 per cent offered indecent services or had partitioned rooms.

Last year, as South Korean patients first began showing signs of exposure to the AIDS virus, local health authorities began regular sanitary checks on 12,000 prostitutes catering to foreigners and another 130,000 hargirls, hostesses and mas-

## Bush poised for sweeping victory

WASHINGTON, March 8, (Reuters): The US presidential election campaign headed for a crossroads today with Vice-President George Bush poised for a sweeping set of primary victories that could give him a virtual lock on the Republican presidential nomination.

The picture was less clear for Democrats in the critical "Super Tuesday" vote, the biggest primary day ever held in American political history.

Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis and black activist Jesse Jackson were favourites to score the party's biggest victories in the south, where most of the contests were taking place.

**Experts**

Polls and political experts were united in predicting that Bush would emerge as the day's big winner.

An ABC/Washington Post poll released last night predicted that Bush could win the Republican contests in 16 of the 17 states at stake, beating his nearest rival, Kansas Senator Robert Dole, by a 3-1 margin in most of them.

Dole, desperate at the thought of being written out of the Republican race, said yesterday that a Bush avalanche on "Super Tuesday" could lead to disaster for the party that has held the presidency for the past eight years.

He declared Bush unelectable in November and said if Republicans picked the Vice-President they would be choosing a loser. He likened Bush to the 1984 Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale, who lost all but one state to President Reagan.

Jackson was expected to win the Democratic primaries in the deep south states of Alabama and Mississippi, where 20 years ago blacks were still fighting for the right to vote.

About 80 per cent of the south's black voters are strongly for Jackson and his pitch to add white voters to his cause appears to have been successful in many states.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Minister denies

ISLAMABAD, March 8, (Xinhua): Pakistan State Minister for Defence Rana Naeem Mahmud Khan has stated that Pakistan has no interest whatsoever in fomenting any trouble in India, official sources said here yesterday.

"Instability along our borders is not our interest," the minister said at the Senate.

### Deaths prevented

LONDON, March 8, (UPI): British officials say scores of deaths and injuries were prevented by soldiers who shot to death three unarmed Irish Republican Army members who allegedly were setting up a car bomb in Britain's Mediterranean colony of Gibraltar.

No bomb has yet been found despite a massive search on the colony and across the border in Spain, security officials said today.

The Irish government issued a statement this afternoon saying it was "gravely perturbed" at the Sunday "killings of three unarmed Irish people when they could have been arrested." It demanded full details on the matter.

### 300 police hurt

BEIJING, March 8, (UPI): More than 300 police officers were injured in last weekend's anti-Chinese rioting in Tibet, the Chinese news agency reported today in the first official acknowledgement of the intensity of the violence.

In a report from Lhasa, the Tibetan capital where the disturbance occurred between Saturday and Sunday, the Xinhua news agency also quoted officials as saying police were not carrying firearms during the disturbance and presumably did not shoot at protesters.

### 69 detained

ASSIUT, Egypt, March 8, (Reuters): Police arrested 69 fundamentalists in this southern Egyptian town after a clash in which four people were injured, security sources said today.

Wielding guns, knives and iron bars, the fundamentalists charged Assiut's University campus last night, an hour before students staged an annual musical performance. They attacked the students, destroyed their musical instruments and fired shots in the air.

### Politician shot dead

COLOMBO, March 8, (Reuters): Suspected Tamil rebels shot dead a Communist Party official in Jaffna, northern Sri Lanka today, police said.

Two men on a motorcycle killed S. Vijayanandan, a Tamil and secretary of the Jaffna Communist Party which supports an Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord aimed at ending a five-year-old Tamil separatist war.

### Ship sinks

ATHENS, March 8, (Reuters): The 3,940-tonne Cyprus container vessel Miriam Borchard sank after being in collision with the 18,734-tonne Cyprus bulk carrier Eftihia in the Mediterranean early today, agents for the Eftihia which was expected to reach the Greek port of Piraeus on Thursday.

They said all 14 crew members of the Miriam Borchard, which went down about 10 miles off the Egyptian coast, were rescued by the Eftihia which was expected to reach the Greek port of Piraeus on Thursday.

### Child sex ring

BRUSSELS, March 8, (UPI): A Brussels district court found 16 people, including a former Unicef official, guilty yesterday of operating a child sex ring.

Jozef Verbeeck, 63, former director of Unicef's Brussels office, was sentenced two years in prison for his part in the scandal. Other received sentences ranging from one to 10 years' imprisonment.

One mother was acquitted and charges against another were dropped after the second woman was shown to suffer from mental health problems.

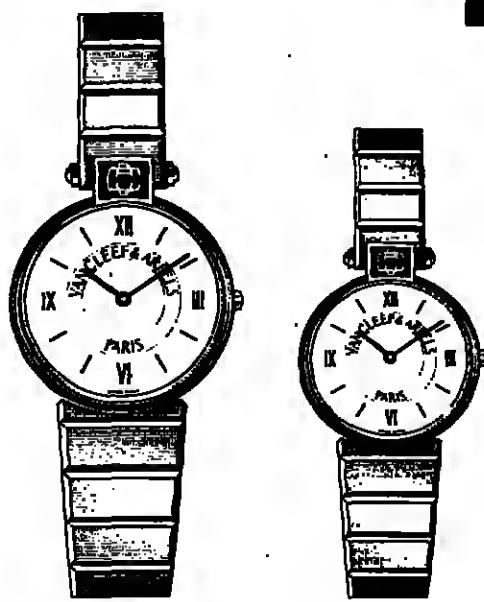
### Bush plunges

PEKING, March 8, (Reuters): Thirty-nine people were killed and 17 injured when their bus plunged off a mountain road in Central China into a deep gorge, the People's Daily said today.

Police and local officials were investigating the cause of yesterday's accident in Lingbao county of Henan province.

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مكتبة الجليل



# GCC states tried their best for a negotiated settlement of Gulf war

WASHINGTON, March 8. (Kuna): The members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) have not sat idly as spectators in the Iran-Iraq war but have sought a solution to the conflict at every level, regional and international, according to a leading Kuwaiti editor and academic.

Dr Mohammad Al Rumaihi, editor of the widely-circulated Kuwaiti monthly magazine Al-Arab, notes in a study just published here that the Gulf states have "unsuccessfully attempted bilateral contacts with Tehran to convince the government thereto agree to a comprehensive negotiated settlement."

**Tanker fleet**  
They have also used their good offices with the Non-aligned Movement and with the Organisation of Islamic Conference, in addition, of course, to resorting to the United Nations Security Council.

Rumaihi's study, entitled, "Arab Gulf Security," discusses a number of threats to Gulf security, including the Iranian and Israeli threats, in addition to discussing the role of the superpowers in the Gulf and the ways in which the GCC states have faced these threats over the last few decades.

One of the GCC's diplomatic thrust to end the Iran-Iraq war, Rumaihi notes, was Kuwait's decision to seek either the lease of foreign tankers from various countries or the re-registration of

its tanker fleet by permanent members of the Security Council. "Although Kuwait motives were purely commercial — to secure the safety of its tanker fleet and to guarantee the export of its oil — the move indirectly got the superpowers involved and made them more concerned with bringing an end to the war," the Kuwaiti editor says.

**Armada**  
He adds, "this international effort eventually led to the adoption of resolution 598. Without this superpower naval involvement, such diplomatic moves — albeit unsuccessful so far — would not have gone forward."

Rumaihi notes that the Gulf war raged for more than six years without a sign of interest from the international community aimed at ending it "until Kuwait got them directly involved."

**Succeeded**  
The Kuwaiti writer reminds the journal's readers that "it was repeated Iranian attacks on international shipping in the Gulf that eventually facilitated entry of such a multinational armada into the Gulf waters."

In looking at future prospects in the Gulf, Rumaihi says, "Kuwait was succeeded in internationalising the conflict, specifically by securing the protection of international shipping and guaranteeing freedom of movement in international

waterways. It is significant, he notes, that the Arab summit conference in Amman, Jordan, fully endorsed the Kuwaiti stand.

The Kuwaiti editor stresses the fact that UN Security Council resolution 598 and the Arab summit conference resolutions "have put limitations on Iran, isolated it in the eyes of the international community, and to a great extent reduced its ability to continue the war, particularly if the Security Council now adopts enforcement measures against it through an arms embargo."

**Isolated**  
He concludes that this limitation and Iran's inability to export its oil "is bound to have an impact on Iran and will force it to come to the negotiating table."

Rumaihi adds, "Iran's decision to expand the conflict to the other Gulf states has now clearly hoovered up. It has brought increased military pressure on Tehran and has isolated it further internationally. Its economy has continued to deteriorate."

**Deadly blow**  
In the medium-term, Rumaihi predicts, one should not expect any basic change in Iran's position. "Iran continues to reject all mediation efforts and to defy the international community by refusing to abide by any UN resolutions."

"It continues to prevaricate, hoping perhaps that time will be

on its side. The facts, however, suggest the opposite is true."

According to Rumaihi, all indications are that "Iran will pursue a military solution to the conflict rather than a negotiated settlement, even if Khomeini dies."

He said that Iran will only stop if Iraq succeeds in dealing Iran a deadly military blow that will cripple Tehran and force it come to the negotiating table.

Or, in the absence of that, a tight economic blockade by the rest of the world forces Iran to succumb, the Kuwaiti editor predicted.

A major part of Rumaihi's in-depth study analyses the two major threats to the Gulf region and to the rest of the Arab world: by Israel and by Iran.

**Policemen**  
At one point, the writer comments, "It has now been well-documented that Israeli support to Iran enabled the Shah and later the ayatollahs of Iran to act as policemen of the Gulf and to expand their border with Iraq to Arab territories in the Gulf region."

At another point, Rumaihi says, "It is ironic that the Arab countries were among the first in the world to voice their support for the new regime in Tehran that toppled the Shah."

The Rumaihi study also examines in detail the weaknesses and cracks appearing from within the regime in Tehran.



Kuwait's Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad (left) greets one of the guests at a dinner hosted by the minister at Kuwait Towers in honour of the heads of the delegation to the eighth general assembly meetings of the Islamic Broadcasting Organisation (Isbo).

## Kuwait, India share views on many issues: Shaheen

NEW DELHI, March 8. (Kuna): Kuwait's Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen today described his talks with Indian leaders as very important, saying it covered all important issues, including seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war, situation in the Middle East and Afghan problem.

Shaheen who arrived here on Sunday evening on a two-day visit, said Kuwait and India shared views on many international issues and expressed concern over escalation of the Gulf war. He said both countries want an end to hostilities between two Gulf nations, and urge that they should settle their dispute amicably.

During his discussion with the Indian leaders including Minister of State for External Affairs Natwar Singh, the Kuwaiti dignitary apprised him of latest political situation in the Gulf.

**Message**  
He told Kuna that Kuwait and India want that Iran and Iraq should settle their dispute according to the United Nations resolution No 598 which is being supported by entire world community.

He also delivered a message from Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed to Natwar Singh, which reflects "Kuwaiti stance on various regional issues".

Shaheen had two rounds of talks with the Secretary in the Indian External Affairs Ministry, Ashok Gokhale.

Shaheen expressed optimism about reaching an early solution to the Afghan problem. He hoped that "our brothers in Afghanistan" will cooperate with authorities in national reconstruction process.

He said Kuwait wants non-aligned Afghanistan, which will keep the landlocked nations free from foreign intervention.

Shaheen was on a four nation tour, which took him to Thailand

and Malaysia, where he held talks with the officials on bilateral matters and other issues.

He appreciated Indian policy towards Arabs. He said India had always supported the Arab cause and extended unflicking support to the Palestinian people in their struggle to set up their own state.

While condemning atrocities in occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip against Palestinians, the Kuwaiti envoy criticised the inhuman acts of the Israeli authorities against Palestinians. He said Palestinians have become victims of ruthless rule of Israel.

**Peace conference**  
India had conveyed to Shaheen that it supports convening of an international conference on the Middle East to find permanent solution to the Palestine problem.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people should be

invited to the conference along with five permanent representatives of the United Nations.

Heavily opportunity to discuss with the Indian leaders measures for expansion of economic and trade ties. Kuwait would soon send a delegation of government representatives and members of Chamber of Commerce to pursue objective of expanding commercial ties.

Shaheen thanked the Indian government for extending him all possible hospitality during his stay in the Indian capital.

Kuwait Ambassador today hosted a lunch for the visiting dignitary, which was attended by diplomats from various Arab nations.

Before leaving for Islamabad Shaheen was given a warm send off at the Indira Gandhi International Airport.

He was seen off at the airport by the Kuwait Ambassador to India A Zakaria Ansari and senior officials of Indian Foreign Ministry.

## Seminar on promoting radio performance

A SEMINAR on promoting the radio performance opened yesterday for a three-week period.

At the opening session Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah delivered a speech on the occasion saying that it is not a coincidence that this seminar is held at the same time when the general assembly of the Islamic Broadcasting Organisation (Isbo) is currently convening here.

Headed by the timing of the seminar with Isbo's meetings is to help Kuwait Radio announcers benefit from this organisation's expertise.

On the other hand, director of Kuwait Radio Dr Abdul Aziz Al Mansour stated to Kuna today that the Seminar aims at promoting radio programmes, noting that all radio employees are participating in it.

The opening session of the seminar was attended by senior officials in the Information Ministry and head of delegations, participating in Isbo's general assembly meetings.

## Arab manpower playing positive role

KAMEL Al Saleh, the Secretary General of the Follow-up Bureau of the Council of Arab Gulf Ministers of Social Affairs and Labour, said that Arab manpower played a positive role in developing the Arab Gulf States.

He added that labour legislation in the Arab Gulf states gave priority to Arab manpower and labourers. Al Saleh said that there are many opportunities for work in these states on development projects. He explained that Arab manpower was stable, while foreign manpower complete projects and then return to their home countries.

## Sheikh Sabah meeting

ACTING Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday received Communications Minister Abdullah Al Sharhan who took permission to leave the country.

Al Sharhan leaves for Abu Dhabi to attend communications ministerial meeting for the Gulf Cooperation Council.

Sheikh Sabah also received Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi, who presented to him the new finance Assistant Undersecretary Hamed Al Shayaee, and Trade Minister Faisal Al Khaled.

The Acting Premier and Foreign Minister received Interior Assistant Undersecretary for Finance Affairs Sheikh Ali Jaber Al Ahmed.

## Appointment



KHALED Fouad has been appointed new General Manager of the Ramada Al Salam, Kuwait.

Fouad is a sales and marketing oriented manager and has already started working on special activities and promotions encompassing families and children. One of his major tasks is to upgrade the quality of service and facilities at the Al Salam.

Fouad maintains that it doesn't cost anything to have a good idea and if it works well, that's what counts. "I find this work extremely challenging," he said.

## PLO to launch campaign against US plan for Mideast

A RANKING Palestinian official yesterday said that the PLO will soon initiate an Arab and international campaign to inform the world of the organisation's refusal of a new US peace plan which was relayed by Secretary of State George Shultz during his recent Mideast tour.

Saleem Al Zanoun, member of the Fatah Central Committee and Deputy Speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), in an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper published yesterday following the committee's meeting in Tunis, affirmed that no Arab country will accept what the Palestinians reject.

**Shultz reservation**  
Shultz concluded two shuttle tours in the Middle East last Saturday, during which he briefed officials in Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Israel on new American ideas to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The US initiative calls for granting Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip limited self-rule. Israel rejected the idea, Egypt expressed reservation, while Jordan

asked for some changes in the plan.

Zanoun, better known as Abul Adib, emphasised that the PLO agreed to the holding of an Arab summit on refusing the US proposals.

Regarding the Syrian-Palestinian ties, he said that they are on their way to the better, thanks to the Algerian mediation, pointing out that the PLO awaits a notice from Damascus specifying a date for a visit by a Palestinian delegation.

**Saudi gift**  
Meanwhile, in Amman, a top official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) arrived in the Jordanian capital on Monday to discuss how to spend \$19 million donated by Saudi Arabia to the Israeli-occupied territories.

Deputy military chief Khalil Al Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, will lead the PLO delegation into a meeting on Tuesday of the joint PLO-Jordanian Steadfastness Fund Committee for allocating the Saudi grant.

Jordan's Occupied Territories Minister, Marwan Doudin, told

Reuters the money would go to health, educational and social projects in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

PLO officials based in Amman also said Wazir would confer with Jordanian officials on a new US peace initiative aimed at ending more than 13 weeks of violent anti-Israeli protests in the occupied Arab lands.

Wazir's arrival coincided with reports that Jordan's King Hussein, seeking an Arab consensus on the US peace plan, had invited PLO leader Yasser Arafat to Amman to discuss it.

Hussein met Arafat during an Arab summit here last November for the "first" time since February 1985, when he broke off talks on a joint approach to peace negotiations with Israel.

## Acting director

KUWAITI Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Osaimi yesterday issued a ministerial decision appointing counsellor Dharar Abdul Razzak Rezzoki as the acting director of international organisations department at the Foreign Ministry.

## Cancer risks can be reduced by quality of food

DR HUSSEIN Al Jazaf, the Head of the Cancer Prevention and Information Unit of Kuwait's Health Ministry said the cause of that one-third of cancer cases was attributed to the quality and quantity of food consumed. He explained that nutrition and diet were factors that contribute to the incidence of cancer.

Cancer risks can be reduced, he said, by selecting a variety of proper foods daily. Meals should include vegetables, meats, dairy products and fruits.

Another important factor, Al Jazaf said, is the proper body weight, adding that studies show that obesity causes heart disease, high blood pressure diabetes and

some kinds of cancer. He said that foodstuffs that contain low quantities of fat and cholesterol may reduce chances of breast, colon and and penile cancer, as well as reducing the risk of heart disease.

He added that foodstuffs containing starch are important and encouraged people to increase the amount of starch in their foods. Al Jazaf also recommended that vegetables, fruits and grains be eaten in suitable quantities.

Al Jazaf said foods with large quantities of sugar, liquor and sodium should be avoided to reduce the risk of cancer and high blood pressure.

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## Sheikh Sabah confers with Klestil

## Austria seeks to boost ties

ACTING Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad yesterday conferred with Austrian Undersecretary Dr Thomas Klestil on a number of issues of mutual concern.

Sheikh Sabah told reporters that Dr Klestil arrived here with a reply message from President Kurt Waldheim to HH the Amir.

He added that the Amir's message included an invitation to visit Kuwait.

The meeting was attended by acting Foreign Undersecretary Faisal Al Saleh Al Motawa and the Austrian Ambassador to Kuwait Wolfgang Steininger.

The Austrian official earlier held a brief meeting with his Kuwaiti counterpart Al Motawa for a review of bilateral relations and a number of questions of common interest.

The official round of talks between the two countries' delegations was then held with the Kuwaiti party chaired by acting director of the political department Abdul Aziz Al Sharekh and grouped acting director of the

economic department Ahmad Al Ibrahim, acting director of the international organisations department Dhrar Abdul Razak Rezouqi and adviser to the political department Abdullah Murad.

The Austrian delegation grouped the team accompanying the Undersecretary in his visit and the Austrian Ambassador.

Support  
Sharekh told Kuna that the talks tackled the "excellent bilateral relations" between Austria and Kuwait in addition to the Iraq-Iran war.

Discussions displayed both parties shared identical views toward "utmost importance of intensifying efforts at all levels to end this war," he added.

Sharekh noted that the exchanges further touched on the Palestine cause in the light of ongoing uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

Dr Klestil affirmed, during the discourse, Austria's understanding and unwavering support to

Arab causes and hailed the distinctive and cordial relations between leaderships of the two countries, Sharekh noted.

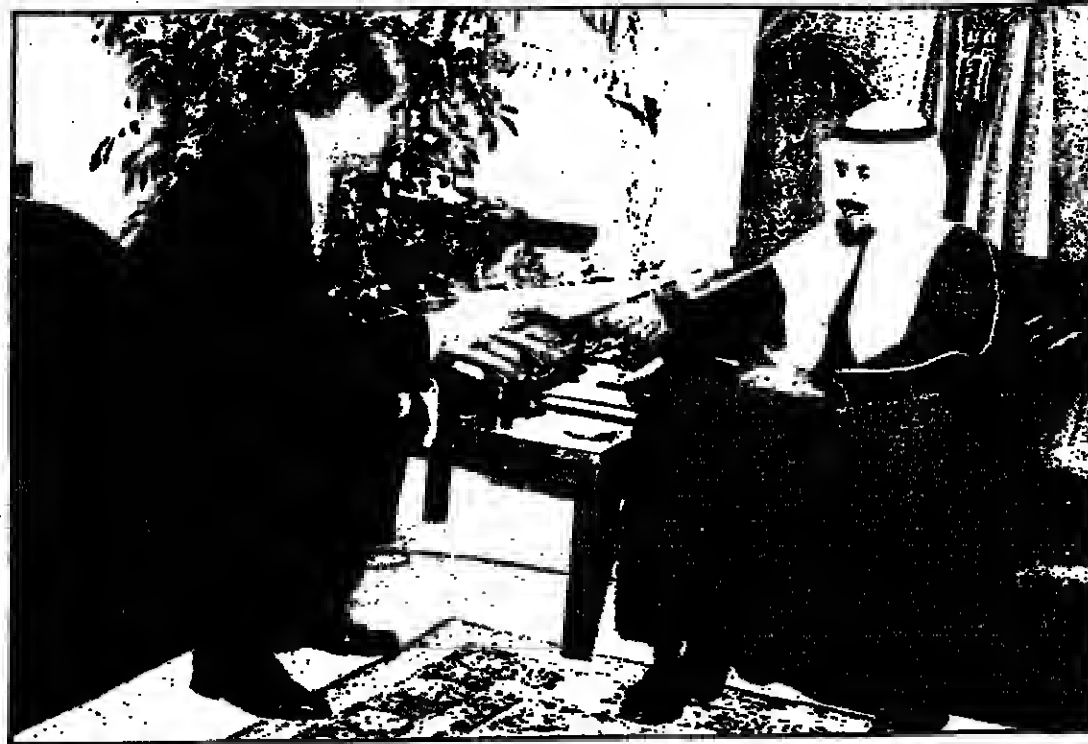
He pointed out that the two sides have expressed sincere desire to upgrade such ties to new broader horizons.

The Kuwaiti side, for its part, praised Vienna's clear supportive stances to Arab questions at all levels, topped by the Palestinian problem.

Austria backs the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and supports the convening of an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

Austria also advocates the execution of Security Council resolution 598 stipulating a ceasefire to the Iraq-Iran war and subsequently solving pending issues.

Motawa hosted a lunch banquet at the Kuwait Hilton in honour of Dr Klestil and the accompanying delegation that was attended by directors of departments and other senior Foreign Ministry officials.



HH the Amir accepts a message from Austrian President Kurt Waldheim presented by Austrian Foreign Undersecretary Dr Thomas Klestil.

## Kuna to open office in Cairo

CAIRO, March 8. (Kuna): Egyptian Information Minister Sawfat Al Sharif today received a message from his Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad on boosting informational cooperation between the two countries and opening an office for the Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) in Cairo.

The message was delivered by board member and deputy director general of Kuna Ahmad Al Dashed during a meeting here today with Egyptian Information Undersecretary Ali Abdul Rahman Rahmi.

A review of media cooperation between the two sisterly countries and means of boosting it were made.

Dashti is currently visiting Cairo at the head of a Kuna delegation to make necessary preparations for the opening of a Kuna office in the Egyptian capital.

## Kuwait's support lauded

SEVERAL members of the administrative board of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture yesterday lauded Kuwait's financial and moral support for the fund, particularly the generous donations granted by HH the Amir.

Henri Lopes, assistant director general of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) said that he was happy that the fund's meetings coincided with Kuwait's 27th National Day, praising the care rendered by the Amir to the fund's activities.

Greek sociology professor, Mary Eloy noted that Kuwait's hosting of the meetings comes as a splendid opportunity to witness the various aspects of Arab and Islamic culture.

## Inspection tour

UNDERSECRETARY of Employees Diwan Abdul Aziz Al Zaben, yesterday visited the military construction department during which he inspected the progress of work.

Upon his arrival, Al Zaben was received by assistant undersecretary for military construction Sabah Al Nasar and other military officials.

The tour falls in line with the exchange of visits programme between the Defence Ministry and other national institutions and ministries.

## KD 95,000 fine

A MAN was fined KD 95,000 by Kuwait's Commercial Court for driving at excessive speed which resulted in the death of six children and their parents. The money will be paid to the heir of the deceased's family.

The insurance company, where the defendant had his car insured, had already paid the amount to the deceased's heir, but the court ruled that the defendant must bear the cost because of his irresponsible driving.

## Jassar affirms need for Islamic meetings

CAIRO, March 8. (Kuna): Kuwaiti Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Khalid Ahmed Al Jassar today affirmed the necessity of Islamic meetings.

In an exclusive interview with Kuna here before leaving Cairo for Kuala Lumpur after participation in the 11th conference of Islamic researchers which concluded here today, Jassar said that "the conference aimed at supporting Muslims wherever they are."

Unifying Islamic efforts will increase aid, particularly for people in the African continent, and spreading the Islamic religion, he indicated.

The Kuwaiti minister pointed out the conference discussed a number of issues related to the



The Moroccan ambassador to Kuwait seen presenting a copy of his credentials to acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad.

## Sheikh Nawaf visits Infantry Brigade

DEFENCE Minister and acting Interior Minister, Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad yesterday made a field visit to the sixth mechanised Infantry Brigade and met with a number of officers at the Army's staff command.

The visit falls in line with inspection tours launched by the Defence Minister to have a close look into various military units, seasonal training programmes and to meet with military commanders at their outposts.

## Alert

The minister listened to a detailed explanation on formation and duties of the Brigade in times of peace and war in addition to training programmes and build up exercises outside the camp.

The minister toured the operation and control rooms in addition to training centres and later met with officers of the Brigade and hailed their high morale and enthusiasm and lauded their combat abilities.

Sheikh Nawaf issued orders that all Kuwaiti armed forces remain alert and cautious at all times taking into consideration the country's interests and preserving its security, stability and territorial sovereignty.

He conveyed to all Brigade officers greetings of HH the Amir, the supreme commander of the armed forces and HH the Crown Prince and Premier and the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister.

The Brigade had taken part in a number of missions within and outside the country, important of which was the Yarmouk Division's participation at the Egyptian front in the 1967 war and the ensuing war of attrition. It further took part at the Syrian front in the 1973 war and participated in the GCC Peninsula Shield Force and indulged in war games with Saudi and Omani forces.

Ministers discuss cooperation  
MINISTER of Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Houli yesterday met with Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak.

During the meeting, which was attended by top officials from the two ministries, Al Houli and Abdul Razzak discussed cooperation in implementing joint projects.

## Prison term reduced

KUWAIT'S Court of Appeal reduced a five-year prison sentence to three and a half years, with hard labour, for a man accused of stabbing another man.

The incident took place during the course of an argument over a cigarette butt which had been thrown by the suspect on the victim.

The court reduced the sentence because of failure to find conclusive evidence regarding the incident.

tion to training centres and later met with officers of the Brigade and hailed their high morale and enthusiasm and lauded their combat abilities.

Sheikh Nawaf issued orders that all Kuwaiti armed forces remain alert and cautious at all times taking into consideration the country's interests and preserving its security, stability and territorial sovereignty.

He conveyed to all Brigade officers greetings of HH the Amir, the supreme commander of the armed forces and HH the Crown Prince and Premier and the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister.

The Brigade had taken part in a number of missions within and outside the country, important of which was the Yarmouk Division's participation at the Egyptian front in the 1967 war and the ensuing war of attrition. It further took part at the Syrian front in the 1973 war and participated in the GCC Peninsula Shield Force and indulged in war games with Saudi and Omani forces.

Ministers discuss cooperation  
MINISTER of Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Houli yesterday met with Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak.

During the meeting, which was attended by top officials from the two ministries, Al Houli and Abdul Razzak discussed cooperation in implementing joint projects.

## Prison term reduced

KUWAIT'S Court of Appeal reduced a five-year prison sentence to three and a half years, with hard labour, for a man accused of stabbing another man.

The incident took place during the course of an argument over a cigarette butt which had been thrown by the suspect on the victim.

The court reduced the sentence because of failure to find conclusive evidence regarding the incident.

## ROYAL COURT

## Amiri audiences

HH the Amir yesterday received the acting Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad.

The Amir also received Finance Minister Jassem Al Kharafi who introduced to the Amir Hamad Abdulla Al Dakhil Al Shale who has been appointed as Assistant Undersecretary in the Finance Ministry.

Later the Amir received Austrian Foreign Undersecretary Dr Thomas Klestil who delivered a message from President Kurt Waldheim.

The meeting was attended by acting Foreign Undersecretary Faisal Al Saleh Al Motawa, and the Austrian Ambassador to Kuwait.

## Amir to receive credentials

THE credentials of the new Moroccan, Pakistani and Spanish ambassadors to Kuwait will be presented to HH the Amir today in a ceremony to be held at the Seif Palace.

## Cable of thanks

THE acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad yesterday received a cable of thanks from Lebanese acting Premier and Labour and Education Minister Salim Al Hoss on the occasion of the arrival in Lebanon, of the fourth batch of Kuwaiti aid.

Sheikh Sabah in a reply cable said he appreciated the gesture and said Kuwaiti people sympathise with their Lebanese brothers noting that the aid dispatch was in fulfillment of a duty dictated by fraternal relations between the two countries.

## KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

## Political balance upset

KUWAITI newspaper Al Rai Al Aam, while wondering whether the US Secretary of State George Shultz's recent initiative has succeeded or not, yesterday affirmed that the Palestinian uprising has upset the political balance in the region and endorsed the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

In a front page editorial the paper said that the US, Israel and even some Arabs should know to restore balance and try to be flexible with the new realities.

However, the paper noted that the Palestinian cause which is the core of the conflict in the region is not being considered as a main issue by the United States and Israel.

Therefore, Shultz's recent visit to the region was to feel the pulse and not to solve the Palestinian cause, the paper said.

"Shultz's visit to the region is to rescue Israel and help the Zionist entity to regain its reputation after being strongly condemned by the world for its brutal actions," the paper went on.

Al Rai Al Aam underlined that the Palestinian popular uprising has imposed itself on all parties concerned in such a way that neither Shultz nor anyone else would be able to ignore it or bypass it.

In conclusion the paper affirmed that the upheaval deepened the Palestinians' attachment to their homeland.

## GULF PRESS

## Commando attack praised

UNITED Arab Emirates newspapers, published in their editorials yesterday the daring commando attack near the Zionist nuclear reactor at Dimona in the Negev desert saying no place is beyond the reach of the Palestinian commando operations.

The Dubai based newspaper Al Bayan described the operation as "another Palestinian breakthrough of the red lines which the Israeli enemy has set up to prevent infiltration — the operation, which is huge in potential and results, represents a sharp turn in the Palestinian struggle against the Israeli occupation."

The newspaper said "the operation has crushed the myth of red lines claimed by the enemy military and strategic personnel."

"The Dimona operation has reiterated that the Palestinian struggle is capable not only of approaching red lines of the enemy's security strategic positions but to infiltrate it. It also confirms the flexibility of the Palestinian resistance and capacity to define its targets," the newspaper added.

Al Fair newspaper commenting on the same issue said "The operation has astonished the enemy's leaders who rushed to the scene and described it as dangerous."

The newspaper added "It is a real and quick answer from the Palestinians to the initiative of the US Secretary of State George Shultz. It is the stand of the PLO expressed in a language understood by Tel Aviv leaders and the American administration."

## Former USS Stark crewman struggles to overcome fears

ABOARD THE USS Simpson in the Gulf, March 8. (Reuters): Every night, seaman James Brown performs the same ritual: he retraces step by step the escape route he would take from his sleeping quarters if the USS Simpson ever came under attack.

The 20-year-old sailor has good reason for caution. Last May 17 Brown was on his first night of sea duty aboard the USS Stark when an Iraqi missile strike turned the American warship into a floating inferno.

## Nightmares

Most of the Stark's survivors were shipped home to recover from the ordeal — a trailer housed on the Stark's helicopter hanger deck — when the missile attack erupted at 8:45 pm.

At first, he thought the ship had blown an engine, but when the Iraqi jet hit the Stark with

another Exocet only seconds later, Brown knew something had gone terribly wrong.

He recalls the panicky, almost whimpering voice that came over the loudspeaker calling the crew to general quarters.

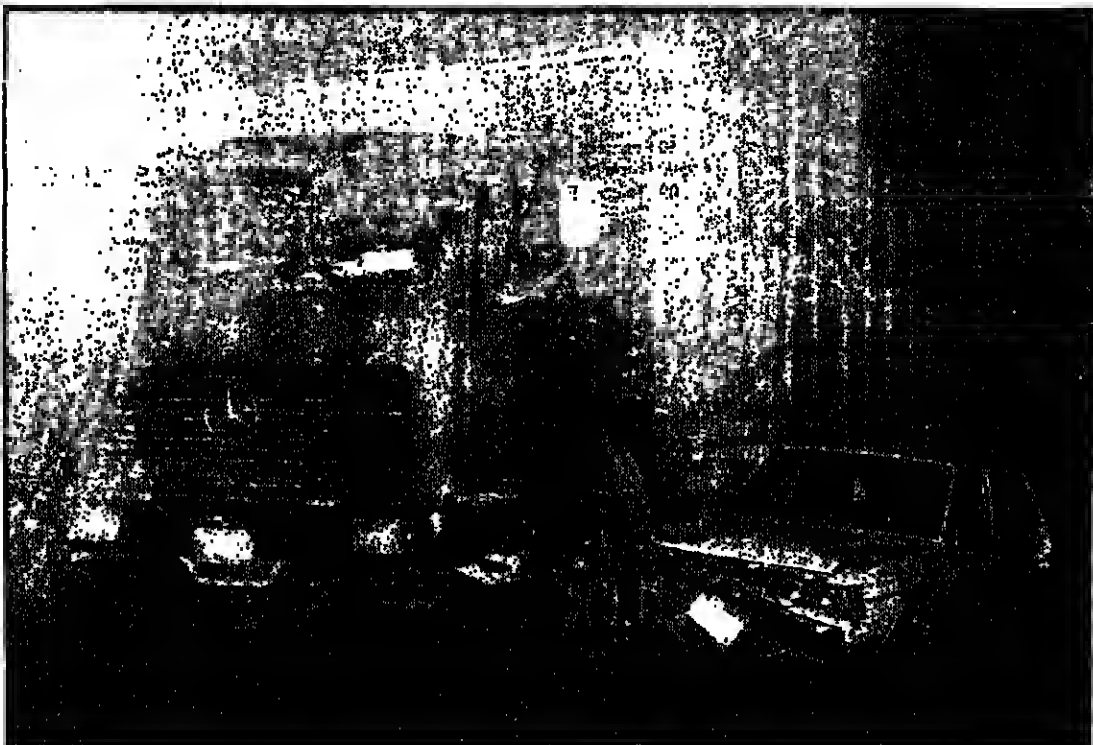
Brown feared that the fires rising through the ship would ignite the highly volatile Stingers. He and two other men climbed through smoke-filled passageways to the missile storage area and pulled the weapons to safety.

For the next 24 hours, Brown, who had joined the Stark only three days earlier, manned firehoses and helped treat the wounded.

Now when Brown is on watch, he does not relax. His superiors describe him as one of the most vigilant and safety-conscious sailors on the ship.



US seaman James Brown (right) and a colleague point out a passing speedboat while manning a 50-calibre machine gun on board the USS Simpson. (Reuters wirephoto)



● A truck and car collided on Airport Road near Shuwalah yesterday evening when a sandstorm reduced visibility to a few metres. (Picture by Ahmed Brouni)

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Gori S. Khandelwal

on the sad demise of his

beloved

MOTHER



## WHAT'S ON

## THEATRE

**Rock 'n' Romance**  
Kuwait Players present Rock 'n' Romance, a rock show with a romantic touch, directed by June Stevenson and Phil Thomas, featuring music by Eric Clapton, Dire Straits, Elton John, Chopin and others. It will be held at the Regency Palace Hotel at 8 pm on March 20, 21, 22, 23 and at 3 pm and 8 pm on March 24. For details call 5624175, after 2 pm, or 5745838.

**ACT**  
ACT's "An Evening of Absurdity" 8 pm nightly, until Thursday, at the Mousetrap Theatre, New English School. The evening consists of two absurdly comic one-act plays. The Bald Soprano by Eugene Ionesco and The American Dream by Edward Albee. For reservations ring 5639204; 5620332; 5725071.

**Kuwait Little Theatre**  
KLT will perform the Vicar of Wakefield, an amusing tale by Oliver Goldsmith. Gala opening on March 14 at 7.30 pm. Repeat performances on March 15, 16 and 17 at 8.15 pm. For reservations ring 3983724.

## SOCIAL

**Daniella**  
The 1988 Revue will be performed at the Gazelle Club on March 17 at 7.30 pm. It is a major family event of the year: don't leave children at home. For reservations contact Connie — 3947693; Annette — 3903480 before March 15.

**Desert BBQ**  
Kuwait Players will hold a Desert BBQ on Friday, March 11, catered by a leading hotel. Organised games for children. Newcomers particularly welcome. Tel: 5330934; 5613465.

**Bangladesh Association**  
The Association will publish a souvenir to mark the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh. Contributors can submit articles to an officer of the association. Artists can contact the cultural secretary. A cultural programme will be held on March 31, 6.30 pm, at the Sharq Cooperative Society Auditorium.

**Luncheon Party**  
Friends of Great Ormond Street Hospital London will be held on March 17, 1.30 pm, at Messiah Beach Hotel. For reservations contact 4831339; 5636675.

**Kuwait Irish Society**  
St Patrick's Day celebration on March 17 at the Holiday Inn Hotel. If interested contact — 5621701/5622701, 8 am to 2 pm or 5624175 after 2 pm.

**Contact**  
The next meeting of the ladies information group, Contact, will be held on Saturday, March 19, at 10 am at the SAS Hotel. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome. For details phone 3949807; 4874513; 5383999.

**Photography Contest**  
Kapiku has extended the deadline to March 31 for submitting entries for the photography contest on "Portrait of Filippino in Kuwait." The K.P.K.I.D. number must be mentioned on all entries. For details phone 4877793.

## SPORTS

**Cricket Match**  
The BA Speedbird Trophy cricket match between teams representing Great Britain and India will take place on March 15 at the KOC, Ahmadi, New Ground. Play commences at 9.30 am. All are welcome.

**Swimming Classes**  
Swimming classes for children, beginners, improvers and advanced levels will be held at the Kuwait Hilton Hotel. For details contact the hotel's recreation manager.

**Inter-School Knockout '88**  
Inter-school Knockout '88 will take place at the Holiday Inn Hotel. Games featuring students and teachers will be held for three nights. For details contact the Holiday Inn hotel.

**German Sports — Stammtisch**  
The latest weekly German sports round-up shown on video every Tuesday at 7.30 pm at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Free entry. For details contact Bernhard Irmig — 4835344.

## HOTELS

**At the Meridien**  
Versailles Restaurant features fresh lobster promotion, until March 17. La Brasserie offers daily lunch and dinner. Extensive buffet and a la carte service.

**At the Hilton**  
La Palma, all-day dining restaurant open from 6.30 am, features Oriental, Continental and international cuisine and an array of sweets and desserts. Full American buffet breakfast offered from 6.30 am to 11 am. A la carte also available.



Steve Guttenberg, Tom Selleck and Ted Danson in Three Men and a Cradle

By Shaun Seekins

WITH *The Running Man*, director Paul Michael Glazer (maybe you remember him from *Stargate* and *Hitch*) has settled for a big budget (\$27 million) high concept "splatter flick" which contains only a hint of the irony found in the original story, instead of creating a breakthrough vehicle for the muscle-man.

The story takes place in circa 2020 when all of civilisation's worst fears have become reality: global depression, starvation, and ultimately totalitarianism. Schwarzenegger plays a helicopter pilot who is one of the elite guards charged with keeping the rabble under control but falls from grace when he refuses to gun down Bakersfield, California food rioters. Imprisoned, he shoots (and computes) his way out and tries to flee the country with Maria Conchita Alonso as his hostage.

However, he is captured at the airport and sentenced to become a contestant on the world's most popular game show, *The Running Man*, where criminals are released in the earthquake (yes, it finally came) decimated streets of Los Angeles to be bunted down before a national TV audience which bets on their favourite

stallions. In the process the film takes some devastating swipes at such media events as game shows and professional wrestling, but instead of breaking new ground as Network did so successfully in 1976, Glazer plays it safe with ritualised action scenes. In doing so, he leaves us with a "diamond in the rough" with little to distinguish it from Schwarzenegger's previous films apart from more expensive sets and futuristic

## VIDEO CORNER

## Rough diamond



Arnold Schwarzenegger: no breakthrough

special effects. Normally, Schwarzenegger's films have a built-in cushion of support from the muscle-man's legion of fans, and judging by the box office figures they haven't let him down this time. Touchstone's *Three Men and a Cradle* is the latest entry in Hollywood's 1987 "baby

doorstep after an all night party.

To further complicate the issue, the father (Danson) has departed for a movie assignment in Turkey, leaving behind instructions for his room-mates to take delivery of a package, which turns out to be heroin. The room-mates soon find themselves caught between the police and gangsters anxious to recover the illicit merchandise.

Selleck's character, a successful architect, is all thumbs when it comes to changing a nappy. Danson tries to play father as if it were a film role and cartoonist Guttenberg draws the line when it comes to washing a baby's bottom. Selleck, Danson and Guttenberg manage to successfully play both father and house-mother roles without losing their macho image. Selleck in particular seems to have found the "Cary Grant" comedic aura that has eluded him in earlier screen roles. Based on star power alone, this film should be a hit, but the fact that it is also an extremely funny comedy should make it one of the hottest films of the year.

Thrillers this week include *Steel Dawn*, *Street Justice* and *Smokey And The Good Time Outlaws*. New dramas are *Dead Lucky* and *Made in Heaven*, golden oldie *Malaya* stars Spencer Tracy and James Stewart. For children new *Bravest and Shera* cartoons are now available. Sports fans have to be content with *Sonics vs Mavericks* and *Laker vs Pistons* basketball games. The *Two Ronnies* and *L.A. Law* series continue and finally the MTV March top hits is also available.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Safeway, Farwaniya; Video Nani, Saliya (tel: 2432809) and Video Club, Salmiya, (tel: 5724372).

## Wonderful absurdity

By Keith Wells

THE American Community Theatre (ACT) felt they were taking a bit of a risk by staging two examples of the Theatre of the Absurd: Ionesco's *The Bald Soprano* and Albee's *The American Dream*. However, judging by the audience's reaction to the first night's performances they have come up with a real success. *The Bald Soprano* in particular was often funnier than any farce as the crazy dialogue crackled along at a tremendous pace piling illogicality on absurdity upon inanity till the audience was roaring with laughter.

Mrs Smith, brilliantly played by Cathy Lloyd, hithered and whithered about the trivia of consumerism with a manic seriousness that laid bare the emptiness of so many suburban lives. Mary Anne Greenwell did a marvellous job as the neo-Nazi housemaid, Mary.

When Mr and Mrs Martin arrive for dinner the play gets even weirder as the couple struggle to remember where they have seen each other before. Their selective amnesia means that they remember only the most irrelevant details of their lives while forgetting that they are actually man and wife. Their parody of the lack of communication between couples finally reduces them to mere robots. The Martins were well played by Shaheen Kazi

and Kavinder Singh and got plenty of laughs.

A major theme of the play is how wrongly applied logic can seem to explain things while actually demonstrating only the meaninglessness of existence. That sounds like a high-brow idea, but Ionesco's hilarious non sequiturs make it a delight to watch. "The bald soprano, who always wears her hair in the same way," is the classic line which not only gives the play its title but also illustrates the hilarious illogicality of the whole. At times, the characters trade non sequiturs like a group of cross talk comedians gone mad.

**Stereotypes**  
At the end, the Fire Chief arrives, played by Paul Nachian, and soon the entire cast is caught up in a frenzy of inappropriate clichés, bizarre anti-proverbs and insane epigrams as if the whole world had gone mad. On the first night this section got a little too confusing so that it was difficult to make out exactly what was being said, but that's a minor quibble. As a whole the play was a great success and the audience evidently enjoyed every moment.

Edward Albee's *The American Dream* is a somewhat more ambitious play with pretensions to meaning that are not quite so subtle as Ionesco's work. Too often the dialogue topples over from the illogical



(L to R) Debbie Turner, Scott Hose and Barbara Gould in ACT's production of 'The American Dream' at the Mousetrap Theatre.

to the pointless and although I felt that it was not as funny as *The Bald Soprano* it was better acted on the whole.

Whereas Ionesco's characters are almost automotons, completely unrelated to living people, Albee uses absurd stereotypes to illustrate the empty-headed callousness of the sentimental. Debbie Turner and Scott Hose gave fine performances as Mommy and Daddy, a parody of the tyrannical American female and her wimpish husband. Scott, in particular, earned some of the biggest laughs of the evening with his superb timing.

Grandma, played by Mary Anne Greenwell again, was

marvellous as Grandma, showing how the elderly often have a far shrewder idea of what's going on than they are given credit for. Mary Anne switched neatly from tart, hillbilly self-awareness, to the true pathos of old age and her convincing performance kept the whole thing together.

Mohammed Abulebain was very amusing as the vain and self-centred young man who personifies *The American Dream*. Altogether, *An Evening of Absurdity* which was directed by George Plautz, was a refreshing change to the normal theatre fare in Kuwait. The audience reaction was very positive and showed that they appreciated the plays greatly.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News Via Satellite
- 3.30 Ibtal Al Mu'Laeh: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 World News Via Satellite
- 4.25 Ghadab Al Sahara: historical serial, starring Abdul Rahman Al Rish, Sahar Rami...
- 5.15 Bain Al Ans Wa Al Youm: Between Yesterday and Today. Fatima Al Toq presents this weekly programme on local affairs.
- 6.00 Songs
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 With Students: hosted by Essa Rusboud
- 7.45 Folklore: presented by Mohammad Mutairi
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Surag Al Simt: part 10 of Arabic serial, starring Sana Jamil Hamdi, Ghaith, Anwar Ismael, Mimi Jamal, Ahmad Badr.
- 10.50 Music Studio: a variety show featuring such singers as Nabil Shuaib, Habib Al Duwailah, Mohammad Mohsin, Mustafa Ahmad, Mohammad Omar, Ahmad Al Jumairi and others.
- 12.15 News Summary
- 12.20 World News via Satellite
- 1.00 Holy Quran/Closedown



Perfect Strangers, tonight on KTV 2.

## KTV 2

- 3.00 Holy Quran
- 3.10 Cartoons
- 3.50 Arah Gulf Championship Football: Saudi Arabia vs Bahrain
- 6.10 The Get Along Gang: cartoons
- 6.30 Micro at Work: this half-hour programme on computer examines usefulness of the equipment.
- 6.50 The Living Isles: "Under the Plough" As arable land spread the open fields could no longer accommodate wild life.
- 7.30 Growing Pains: "Carnival." Maggie raises money for a carnival at the expense of neglecting her son, Ben.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 J.J. Starbuck: "A Song From the Seagull." The story

of a teenaged boy accused of murder. Starring Dale Robertson in the title role.

9.30 The World of Strange Power: "The Roots of Evil"

10.00 Perfect Strangers: "Dog Gone Blues." Larry finds a stray dog and takes it home. But the landlord tells to get rid of the dog or vacate the flat.

10.30 Falcon Crest: Richard Channing has found a new interest — baseball. Melissa continues her fight to re-open her winery.

12.00 Report from Saudi Arabia.

12.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## RADIO PROGRAMMES

## English

- 08.00 Opening
- 08.02 Songs and Music
- 08.05 Writers and Poets in Arabic Literature
- 08.20 Songs and Music
- 08.30 News
- 08.40 Songs and Music
- 08.45 Daily Programme
- 09.00 Golden Collection
- 09.30 Album Tracks
- 10.00 Our Press Today
- 10.05 Songs and Music
- 11.00 Closedown
- 13.30 News on FM Service

## Evening

- 21.00 Opening
- 21.02 Pop Scene
- 21.30 News
- 21.45 Point of View
- 21.55 Songs and Music
- 22.15 Musical Celebrities
- 22.45 Daily Programme
- 23.00 Soul With A Beat
- 23.30 Choice of the Week
- 24.00 Closedown

## BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newsrel
- 30 Omnibus
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 30 Report on Religion
- 45 Country Style
- 0200 World News
- 09 Commentary

- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 Folk in Britain/Jazz Scene UK
- 1000 News Summary followed by Omnibus
- 30 Yes Minister
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Byron Readings (ex 30th The

- 15 Chain Reaction
- 30 Citizens
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Discovery
- 0400 Newsrel
- 30 Byron Readings (ex 30th New Ideas)
- 40 Book Choice
- 45 Redactions
- 50 Financial News
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Report on Religion (ex 30th The Wondrous Cross)
- 45 The World Today
- 0600 Newsrel
- 30 Meridian
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Development '88
- 0800 World News
- 15 Reflections
- 15 Classical Record Review
- 30 My Word
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 Folk in Britain/Jazz Scene UK
- 1000 News Summary followed by Omnibus
- 30 Yes Minister
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Byron Readings (ex 30th The

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1340 News
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 French
- 1800 Pops
- 1900 Be Our Guest
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2200 Famous Classical Works
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Listening

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
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- 1700 French
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## CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andalus
- Al Marat Wal Kanoon (Arabic)
- Starring: Shirhan, Farouk Fishawi, Majeda
- Al Salmiya
- Jumping Jack Flash
- Starring: Whoopi Goldberg
- Al Hamra
- The Highest Honour
- Starring: John Howard
- Drive-In
- Al Rajul Yahub Marratani (Arabic)
- Starring: Mahmoud Abdul Aziz, Shahira, Laila Alwi, Hala Sudqi, Waheed Saif
- Al Firdous
- Dilruba Tangewali (Hindi)
- Starring: Hemant Birje, Sriprada Krishna, Deva, Pran
- Fahsheel Open-Air
- Kudrat Ka Kanoon (Hindi)
- Al Fahsheel
- Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)
- Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
- Al Jahra
- White Apache
- Granada
- Wa Yabqa Al Huh (Arabic)
- Salsibikhat
- Id:nazhiyil Oru Kalocha (Malayalam)
- Al Jleeb
- Money Pit
- Akmdri Drive-In
- Al Mal'oub (Arabic)
- Starring: Mahmoud Yassin, Inaan

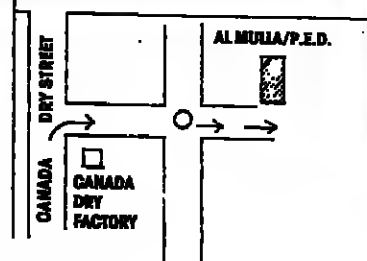
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## EDITORIALS

# ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

SHALLOW men believe in luck — Ralph Waldo Emerson, US writer (1803-1882).

## Suharto aims for global spotlight

By Ruth Youngblood

JAKARTA. (UPI): Indonesia hopes to step back into the international limelight it has shunned for more than two decades with the re-election of President Suharto to his fifth five-year term.

For 22 years Suharto concentrated on rebuilding a shattered economy. Now he has signalled his intention to manoeuvre the world's fifth most populous country back into global prominence.

"It sounds like Indonesia is finally growing up," said a Western analyst after Suharto underscored improved cooperation with the West, strengthened relations with the Soviet Union and reopened direct trade with China.

He listed these accomplishments to a special assembly ready to keep him in office until 1993. By then Suharto, with strong backing from the 280,000 strong military, will have been president for more than a quarter of a century.

Once-reclusive Indonesia has made a recent bid to head the Non-Aligned Movement. Another sign of its emergence is a change of vice president.

Observers expect Suharto to replace parochial Vice President Umar Wirahadikusumah with Sudharmono, the powerful head of the state secretariat. That would make him heir to the No. 1 post should Suharto, 66, decide to step down.

Observers said the appointment would mean Suharto devoting more time to international affairs, long placed on a back burner while Suharto fought for stability and economic development in the former Dutch plantation colony of 175 million people.

Re-electing Suharto — he is the only candidate — is the most important job of the 1,000-member Peoples Consultative Assembly. The vote by acclamation is set for Thursday. The vice president will be chosen a day later — the 22nd anniversary of Suharto's ouster of his predecessor and Indonesia's only other

president, the flamboyant Sukarno.

Suharto's critics contend the country's reassertion is long overdue.

"He is not like Sukarno, who prepared himself for world exposure," said Slamet Bratanata, a former government minister. He said Suharto is "a simple man who is very much the product of an old way of life."

Retreat  
Indonesia made a sharp retreat from high-profile foreign relations after an unsuccessful communist-backed coup attempt against Sukarno in 1965. Sukarno was a spellbinding orator, one of the founders of the Non-Aligned Movement. Suharto was a relatively unknown Army General who inherited political chaos and an inflation rate of 600 per cent.

Suharto "has not attended a meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement since 1970," said Yuwono Sudarsono, professor of political science at the University of Indonesia.

"From my reading of the president, he wants to project an image of a non-aligned country that rests on sound economic reforms. We would probably like to host the next non-aligned summit, and if the economy is all right, push for something more assertive."

Suharto won praise from the World Bank for moving quickly to adjust after the 1986 crash in oil prices by devaluing the currency and boosting non-oil exports while keeping a tight grip on spending. Despite a mounting \$32.5 billion foreign debt, the self-proclaimed "father of development" has no plans for retrenching.

Yogya  
Indonesia is now, with Sukarno, the Non-Aligned Movement. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, foreign minister for 12 years, said if Indonesia fails it would not be due to ineffective diplomacy or its traditional retiring stance.

"It would be because neither of the candidates wants to lose," he said, leading probably to a compromise choice of another country.

## Opposition gangs up against Rajiv

By Rajendra Bajpai

NEW DELHI. (Reuters): India's splintered opposition parties, fearing Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi might call a snap election, have started unity moves and plan to test their popularity with a national strike on March 15.

Two small regional parties have already announced they will merge into the larger Janata Party which ruled for two years from 1977.

Political sources said on Sunday that talks with other opposition groups were going on and a formal merger or an informal alliance could surface within a few days.

Janata Party President Chandrabab Naidu said the opposition would try its best to defeat Rajiv if the called mid-term national election later this year. They are not due until December next year but speculation is rife that he might call early polls to seek a fresh five-year mandate.

Concessions  
Much of the speculation followed the budget on Feb 29 which gave big concessions to India's millions of villagers.

More than 70 per cent of the country's 800 million people live in villages and the new budget raised spending on agriculture and water resources by 40 per cent to Rs.9 billion (\$690 million) after last year's drought, the worst in a century.

India's two communist parties have joined other political groups in calling a national general strike on March 15 as part of a campaign to challenge the authority of Rajiv, whose reputation as "Mr Clean" has already been tarnished by reports of payoffs in arms purchases.

The main aim of the strike is to test the national response to the summons.

"With the continuous deterioration in the economic, political and social life of the country, the time has come to give a more organised shape to the demands of the people and their protests," an opposition

statement on Saturday said.

The Lok Dal (Peoples' Party) led by Ajit Singh, a peasant leader and son of former Prime Minister Charan Singh, has already agreed to dissolve his group and merge with the larger Janata Party.

Rashtreeya Sanjay Manch, a group led by Rajiv's estranged sister-in-law Maneka Gandhi, has also agreed to dissolve the regional party, which has pockets of influence in northern India, and join Janata.

Political sources said unity talks were being held with a Lok Dal faction led by former minister Hemant Nandan Bahuguna. Bahuguna's party last year dealt a stunning blow to Rajiv when it defeated the ruling Congress (I) Party in Haryana state, its traditional power base in Hindi-speaking north India.

Some of the former Congress Party members led by Vishwanath Pratap Singh have formed a group called Jan Morcha (Peoples' Front) and are also expected to join Janata.

Singh, who resigned as defence minister a year ago, is in the forefront of a campaign against corruption in high places.

The communist parties will not merge with Janata but its leaders favour a loose alliance and electoral seat adjustment.

In Punjab, where militant extremists want to set up a separate Sikh state, efforts are on to patch up differences between various factions of the Sikh Akali Dal which ruled Punjab until dismissed from office in May last year.

Since May, the state has been run from Delhi and unless parliament votes to extend direct presidential rule, it would automatically come to an end on May 10 and elections will become due.

Although Rajiv enjoys an overwhelming majority in the 543-seat lower house of parliament, some of his close advisers favour early elections. They argue that the fight would be much tougher in December 1989 if the economic situation does not improve substantially.

## Israeli repressive policy

# Deportations fail to subdue Palestinians

By Joel Greenberg

RAMALLAH. Israeli-occupied West Bank: "Do the Israelis really think they can have peace by getting rid of certain people?"

For Hiba Rajoub, a Palestinian, the question has a very personal dimension. On Jan 13, Israel deported — permanently exiled — her husband, Jibril, along with three other Palestinians it accused of inciting riots in the occupied territories.

Mrs Rajoub spoke a day after learning that a mine blast in Limassol, Cyprus had damaged the Sol Phryne, a ship bought by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The ship was to serve as the "Ship of Return" for bringing more than 100 deported Palestinians to Israel's port of Haifa in protest of Israel's use of deportations.

Her husband was to be on the ship. Now, the PLO has announced, the voyage is indefinitely postponed. But for Mrs Rajoub, the boat stands for her husband's struggle to return home.

"The boat is a symbol. Those who were kicked out illegally must be allowed to come back the way they want to," she said.

By Kathleen Callo

MANILA. (Reuters): Asian nations are trying to seal their borders against AIDS to keep the region the only one in the world relatively free of the killer disease.

International health experts warn that AIDS knows no boundaries and say Asian countries pursuing a stop-it-at-the-border policy are making a mistake.

They should instead be educating more people to the danger of AIDS and screening all blood donations, something only a handful of countries in the region are doing.

In the Philippines, the government has announced that starting in April three groups of foreigners will have to show "AIDS-free certificates" to get into the country.

The groups are foreign sailors, US servicemen and women posted to American bases and anyone seeking a visa to the Philippines for more than six months. India says all foreigners coming to stay for more than a year are subject to an AIDS test, although it has not yet implemented the rule.

Certificate

In China, foreigners applying for residence permits must present a local health certificate, including an AIDS test.

International health officials have discouraged mandatory testing to block entry of infected people.

The 25-year-old secretary had been married for six weeks when, at midnight on Dec 28, Israeli security personnel came to their apartment and arrested her husband.

"It was on a Monday," Mrs Rajoub recalled. "We had gone to sleep at about 11 o'clock, very tired after a long day of receiving friends who had brought wedding gifts. The soldiers broke through the door, woke up Jibril, and told him he had 10 minutes to get dressed and come with them. There were soldiers in every room, on the roof, on the stairway, and surrounding the building. Jibril was handcuffed and blindfolded, and taken away on a bus."

Attacks  
She believes her husband was selected for arrest because of his past, rather than any alleged current activities.

Rajoub, 34, served 15 years of a life sentence for membership in a Palestinian cell that carried out armed attacks on Israeli targets. He was released in May 1985 in a prisoner exchange with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — General Command.

"Where is the evidence?" asks

Mrs Rajoub of the charges that her husband recently instigated unrest as an operative of Fatah, the mainstream commando group in the PLO.

"If what they claim is true, why didn't they charge him and bring him to court? They said he was behind the uprising, but it has continued despite his expulsion."

Rajoub's deportation was ordered Jan 3, at Jneid prison near Nablus. His wife first heard of it from the International Committee of the Red Cross.

"I was shocked," she said. "We had been planning our life together: settling down, furnishing the house, and having children."

The four Palestinian detainees decided not to appeal the expulsion order to the Supreme Court, saying they had no faith in the Israeli justice system. The authorities moved quickly. On Jan 13, without prior notification of Rajoub's lawyer, the four men were flown by helicopter to Lebanon and released on a country road.

"I heard about it on the 5.30 pm Arabic news bulletin on Israel Radio," Mrs Rajoub recalled.

"We called the lawyer and the Red Cross, who said it was true,

and that they were deeply hurt that they had not been notified. In the evening we saw him landing in Lebanon on the midnight Israeli television newscast. I didn't sleep the rest of the night."

The expulsions were condemned by the United Nations and the United States, and rekindled the debate on the legality and necessity of the tough measure. The US State Department has continually said that the deportations violate human rights. And last month for the first time in six years, the US voted for a UN Security Council resolution critical of Israel: The resolution called for Israel not to deport Palestinian civilians.

According to official figures, 22 Palestinians have been deported from the territories since August 1985, when the government reinstituted the policy after a series of attacks on Israelis by West Bank Arabs. Israel has deported more than a thousand Arabs since 1967, when it occupied the West Bank and Gaza.

Critics say expulsion is an unusually severe punishment, inherited from Draconian Emergency Defence Regulations dating back to the British mandate.

The punishment is meted out on testimony contained in files which are kept secret from the deportee and his lawyers, who are thus powerless to refute the evidence.

The policy is also seen as violating the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 on protection of civilians in wartime. Article 49 of the Convention says that "Individual or mass forcible transfers, as well as deportations of protected persons from occupied territory... are prohibited regardless of the motive."

Deportation  
Israeli defence officials respond that deportation is used only as a measure of last resort against key activists who have persisted in subversive or violent activity, despite repeated imprisonment and other punishment.

They say all legal aspects of a deportation case are researched in advance, so that the evidence against a deportee will stand up to an appeal.

Deporting a person to ensure public security, these officials say, is both in accordance with the Defence Regulations and in conformity with the 1907 Hague Regulations and Geneva Conventions, which require the

occupying power to take measures to maintain law, order, and public safety.

Regarding the Geneva Convention prohibition of deportation, officials cite Israeli Supreme Court rulings, which state that the Convention, adopted in 1949, referred to deportations for purposes of forced labour, torture, and extermination, such as those carried out by the Nazis in World War II.

The officials also note that deportees have the right to appeal their deportation orders to a military appeals board, and later to the Supreme Court. However, in none of the cases since August 1985 have such orders been overturned.

"Now I feel constantly unsettled," said Mrs Rajoub. "They've separated us and broken up our life, and it's very hard now to live quietly. I don't know what the future will bring, and I find myself just waiting. I can't plan anything, I listen all the time to the news, expecting to hear news of Jibril."

The deportations have failed to suppress the uprising and violence flares up every day with more Palestinians being killed. The Christian Science Monitor

## Sealing off borders to AIDS

"The idea is that somehow you can close your borders to a disease and it will make people feel safe. It's a gut reaction," said John Laird, spokesman for the World Health Organisation (WHO) Western Pacific region.

"But AIDS knows no boundaries," he said.

The health body says the move poses a series of problems. First, the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome virus usually does not show up in blood tests until between six weeks and three months after infection. Sometimes it takes up to 14 months.

Those testing negative for the virus can become infected afterwards, but might still use the certificate. Others might buy fake certificates.

Contagious

Experts say the border screening also incorrectly implies that AIDS is a highly contagious disease, like smallpox. Whereas the virus causing AIDS is not spread through casual contact, but mainly through sex, intravenous drug use, blood transfusions or passed from mother to child at birth.

WHO said in mid-February there were almost 78,000 known AIDS cases worldwide, with the real number probably double that. Asia and Oceania account for less than two per cent of the total.



Filipino bargirls greet visiting US servicemen outside Subic Bay naval base with a placard reading 'AIDS KILLS' last year. (Reuters wirephoto)

South Korea announced last year that foreigners attending the 1988 Olympic games in Seoul had to carry AIDS-free certificates, but later dropped the idea for fear of controversy.

A South Korean Health Ministry spokesman said the government planned to build an isolation hospital for AIDS patients before the Olympics to prevent

its spreading to visitors.

In Sri Lanka, the Health Ministry said that beginning this month foreigners and locals would receive brochures at the airport suggesting that those who have engaged in promiscuous sex undergo a voluntary AIDS test at local testing centres.

India, aside from its rule on foreigners staying more than a

year, requires arriving foreign students to take an AIDS test as part of an admission health check-up, diplomats said.

African students demonstrated against the requirement last July, saying they were being unfairly singled out, which prompted the government to exempt students already enrolled.

Philippine immigration commissioner Miriam Defensor Santiago said in late February she devised the new requirement for AIDS-free documentation after prompting from Congressmen.

She said the measure was needed because the country's 11 reported cases of the disease were all "imported" by foreigners or by locals who got the disease overseas.

Voters, especially outside two big US bases north and west of Manila where about 16,000 military personnel are stationed, had pushed for such a rule, she said.

"They're very concerned (about) the servicemen who are on recreation leave... in Olongapo City," she said, referring to the city adjacent to Subic Bay naval base where thousands of prostitutes cater to the servicemen.

"They're afraid that the entire area might be infected," she said.

The Philippine Health Department has reported 61 people infected with the AIDS virus, but not suffering from the disease. Most were prostitutes working outside the bases.

Washington says all military personnel are tested for AIDS before being posted overseas. Santiago said Manila felt it needed to "double check" but might only require verification they had already been tested.

She said the government might set up an AIDS-testing centre at the airport for those arriving without certificates.

## Drug war causes anti-US resentment in Latin America

By Bernd Debusmann

MEXICO CITY. (Reuters): The war against drugs in Latin America is spurring resentment against the United States, the world's biggest market for illicit drugs.

Presidents Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico, Virgilio Barco of Colombia and Alan Garcia of Peru have all recently disagreed publicly with the Reagan administration on how best to fight the war.

And anger over US promoted efforts to wipe out drug crops flared into street demonstrations in Bolivia and Peru.

The main point of contention is the Latin view that the United States is not doing enough to curb demand for illicit drugs at home, thus placing an unfair share of the burden of economically weak countries with severely limited resources.

In Latin eyes, Washington's drug strategy tends to ignore a fundamental economic principle: where there is demand, there is supply. Over the years, this rule has proved stronger than international-agreed economic blockades or government legislation such as the 1920s US prohibition on alcohol.

Demanding

"The United States is demanding much more from the producer countries than it (the US) is doing at home as far as consumption is concerned," said Senator Daniel Cabezas, the head of Bolivia's Commission on Drug Trafficking. Such feelings are almost universally shared in Latin America.

Rather than persuade its citizens to stop snorting cocaine or shooting heroin, Latin officials say, Washington is emphasising the supply side, pushing for the destruction of opium poppy and coca bushes in countries where tens of thousands of peasants depend on their cultivation.

But even in efforts to cripple supplies, the United States is seen as failing to provide adequate

support in a war pitting low-paid Latin security forces against drug traffickers whose mind-boggling profits allow them to pay bribes few can resist.

In 1987, Latin America's big drug producing countries received \$48.9 million in US aid for anti-drug programmes, less than half what Washington paid to Contra rebels fighting the Nicaraguan government.

Judging from interviews with officials in the four major Latin drug countries, anger and resentment at Washington spans the political spectrum and has been spurred by US charges of corruption and inefficiency in anti-drug campaigns.

President Barco of Colombia reflected the opinion of many in a recent speech after gunmen in the pay of drug traffickers assassinated the attorney general, the latest in a long list of justice officials murdered by cocaine runners.

Victims

He said: "Various Latin American countries have been victims of a tremendous injustice as a result of the drug traffic."

Leaving no doubt he was talking chiefly about the United States, he added: "While we are fighting a battle in which we have lost many good men... consumer countries tolerate the circulation of drugs and thus allow for the strengthening of criminal groups which threaten the stability of elected governments."

While narcotics abuse is rising fast in Western Europe, the United States remains by far the richest market for illicit drugs of all description.

Three Latin nations — Colombia, Peru, Bolivia — account for almost all the world's cocaine. Mexico is the highest single source of heroin used in the United States, according to the Washington-based Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

Last year, Mexico received \$14.5 million for its drug eradication programme. Bolivia \$15 million. Colombia \$11.1 million and Peru \$8.3 million, according to the US embassies in those

countries.

Compared with the overall size of the drug business and the money made by its criminal controllers, such sums seem paltry. United Nations estimates put the US market for illicit drugs at around \$110 billion annually, more than the revenues of Ford or General Motors.

Bribes paid by Latin drug lords rival Washington's aid to Latin governments. "These people have so much money they can buy anything, anyone," lamented a US official.

In one of the most striking cases in recent years, a court in Miami in February charged that the head of Panama's armed forces and de facto ruler, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, received \$4.6 million in payoffs to allow Colombian cocaine shipments through his country.

Government officials in the Bahamas, including Prime Minister Lynden Pindling, have been accused in court of having taken up to \$5 million in drug bribes.

The Noriega case reinforced suspicions in Latin America that the United States, on occasion, uses the drug issue to exert political pressure.

"Panamanian government involvement in drug trafficking has been an open secret for years," said a Latin diplomat. "How peculiar that the US never levelled charges against Noriega when the Reagan administration considered him a useful ally."

Incompetence

In Mexico, officials say that US charges of incompetence and corruption in the anti-drug programme have often coincided with US displeasure over Mexican foreign policy.

Senior aides have suggested the Americans were using drug issues to pressure Mexico into softening its opposition to US support for the Nicaraguan contras.

Even where US motives have been above suspicion, the way the Reagan administration has handled drug-related problems at times served to deepen resentment.

## Passage of time erases evidence against Nazis

By Mark Heinrich

BONN. (Reuters): Few if any of the 4,000 suspected Nazi war criminals still under West German investigation will face justice because the passage of time is erasing evidence and consciousness of that grim era, experts say.

Tomorrow, an ex-SS sergeant charged in the concentration camp-slaying of German communist leader Ernst Thaelmann goes on trial for the second time in a case exemplifying the daunting task of trying people half a century after the event.

After 25 years of legal manoeuvring, defendant Wolfgang Otto was tried in 1966, convicted of complicity in murder and given four years in prison. But the federal supreme court ruled the evidence was too thin and ordered a second trial.

The problem is that no new evidence is expected to surface. Everyone else linked to the 1944 Buchenwald camp shooting of Thaelmann, Adolf Hitler's arch-rival in the 1920s and 1930s, is dead or missing.

No credible witnesses are known to be living. The former Buchenwald registrar who once said Otto told him he had shot Thaelmann is now senile and cannot testify again. Testimony by now-deceased witnesses was laced with contradictions.

Otto, 75, previously served seven years in prison for his part in executions of Buchenwald inmates.

Proof

"The Otto case appears to be nasty proof that crimes of this sort can no longer be avenged more than four decades after the end of Nazi tyranny. Acquittal is more probable than ever," commented the Frankfurter Allgemeine newspaper on March 2.

Of the roughly 91,160 war-crime cases investigated in West Germany, 6,481 have produced convictions with sentences averaging eight years in prison, says Alfred Streim, head of the Centre for the Prosecution of Nazi War Crimes.

About 83,560 cases had to be dropped, primarily for lack of firm evidence or due to death of ill health of the suspect or witnesses, Streim told Reuters in an interview.

The Ludwigburg-based centre, responsible for researching cases and referring deserving ones to prosecutors, is still examining some 4,000 — the vast majority from a UN war-crimes commission list obtained only last year.

"We've already written off three-quarters of the 22,000 names we got from the United Nations because of deaths or our statute of limitations that prevails on all war crimes but murder," he said.

"Certainly a great number of remaining suspects will die before possible prosecution. Then, the problem of finding witnesses. The passage of time is a grave problem," he said.

Recent war-crimes trials have generally rated only minor coverage in West Germany's media. There is a generation gap between most adults over 50, who would sooner not be reminded about the Nazi era, and young people who demand unsparing penalties for war crimes, many commentators say.

Such ambivalence was evident early this month when the highly unusual release on bail of a convicted killer of prisoners at the Nazis' Auschwitz camp was hardly noticed by most of the media.

"Auschwitz oppressor can go," said a headline in the Frankfurter Rundschau newspaper about the March 1 release of Gottfried Weise, known as "William Tell of Auschwitz" for his practice of shooting at tin cans on prisoners' heads. One child inmate was killed this way.

The Dusseldorf high court ruled that 66-year-old Weise could be freed on bail pending the outcome of an appeal. Court officials said he was let out largely because his wife was seriously ill.

Kurt Eriebach of the Association of Victims of Nazi Persecution told Reuters that many

prosecution delays or failures could be traced to want of zeal, a weariness with washing dirty historical laundry in public.

"The tendency to delay is a great tragedy in this country," he said. "The feeling is, we've had enough with the past, let's just put it behind us."

Streim counters that a long-standing lack of West German access to crucial war-crimes documents prevented prosecution of thousands of suspects for decades, by which time many had died or covered their tracks.

"Many crucial records were taken home as booty by allied forces after the end of the war. We got tens of thousands of records back only in the 1960s, from the United States, Poland, the Soviet Union," Streim said.

In one notable recent case, authorities in December gave up trying to convict an 81-year-old former SS officer charged in a 1941 mass murder of Poles, saying he was senile and unable to defend himself. Two previous convictions were overturned after higher courts found fault with the four-year sentences.

Evidence

In October 1986, West Berlin cited lack of evidence in calling off the prosecution of 110 former Nazi judges who passed death sentences in Hitler's "people's courts".

More than two dozen of the elderly suspects had died since 1979. A similar number were deemed too ill to stand trial.

Last May, two 72-year-old doctors who took part in the "mercy killings" of more than 10,000 mentally ill people in a Nazi euthanasia programme each received four years in prison.

The two were acquitted in a 1960s trial on the grounds that they believed they were acting in accordance with the law.

That verdict was declared void in 1970, but the second trial was delayed for 16 years for "health" reasons, although the defendants were well enough to



# When our ship(ment) comes in

By Kathy Cuddihy

THE huge van pulled up to the door. Three hefty men jumped down from the cab and immediately started unloading the van's ample contents. Box after box, crate after crate, representing an almost forgotten phase of our lives: a storage shipment that we hadn't seen for 11 years.

With eager enthusiasm we began tearing off the layers of wrapping paper. The box marked "kitchen" spilled forth some interesting delights: menus from a host of trendy restaurants which I'll frame and hang in the dining room. They'll hopefully take everyone's attention away from the horrible wallpaper that's presently gracing the walls and putting us off our food; a full set of blue enamel Copco cookware. Maybe I can redecorate the kitchen to match the pots... a yellowed plastic baby bottle filled with a shriveled cake of milk (so that's where it disappeared!).

We hadn't finished with the kitchen box before our curiosity took us to living room, the bulk of the shipment. First we unpacked the furniture, nervously suspecting that we might now hate its colour/style/texture. Whew! We all liked it and the cushions still have their bounce. Obviously it has aged better than we have.

The 423 books survived a quick scrutiny, although there were a couple of dubious titles that I now preferred not to be associated with!

When we unpacked a large box labelled "Miscellaneous — Ornaments" a fun afternoon began to take a



nasty turn. "Hey Mom, have your tastes improved, or is this the real you that we're discovering after all these years?" exclaimed my charming daughter as she held up a rooster lamp decorated with a gayish fringed shade.

"That happens to have been a wedding present from a very kind old lady we used to know," I retorted defensively.

"You call something like this an act of kindness? Sheesh!"

"Hey, you think the lamp's bad?" called my son from the other side of the room. "Wait until you see all these old photos! Mom, I can't believe you actually looked like this. As a matter of fact, I can't believe that anyone would look like this... and not want to do away with themselves! How on earth

did you have the courage to be seen in public with your hair like that?"

"Alright, childre, that's quite enough. Believe me, I can dig out a few old photos of you that would bring a gentle blush to your cheeks. There may be a few dud items here, but if you look with a more charitable eye you might also find a few treasures."

"Like this booby hoop. Mom. Or these funky horn-rimmed glasses. Or this autographed piece of fungus?" My son grinned fiendishly as he held up various relics from my high school days. This whole unpacking business was beginning to bring my blood pressure to the boil.

Why don't you children go off and tackle the bedroom box and leave your father and me alone to enjoy our memories. In the safety of solitude I

cautiously unwrapped my great grandmother's tea set, quickly peeking over my shoulder to verify there were no cheeky children nearby. No doubt they would unmercifully point out how chintzy grannie's china really was.

Suddenly a scream of delight pierced the air. I dreaded to think what they had unearthed now.

"Mom, are these really some of your old clothes, or did a box of Salvation Army rejects find its way into your shipment by mistake?"

"For your information, those happen to have been the height of fashion at one time."

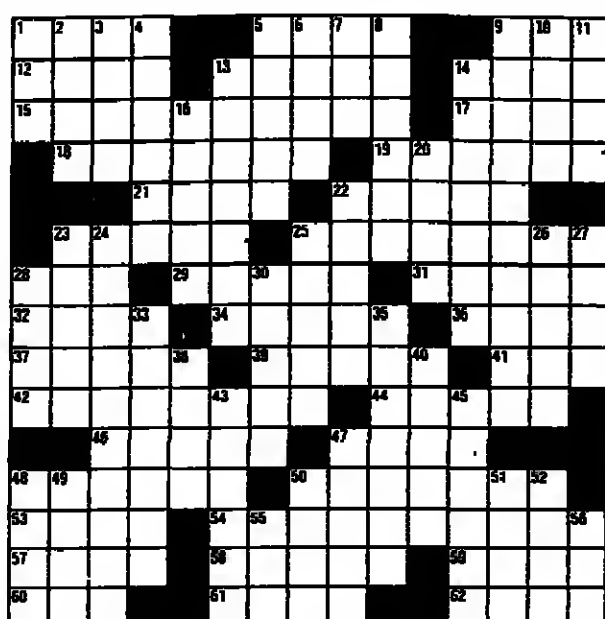
"Certainly not in living memory, Mom. I just know that 'frump' has never been in!" I so it's fascinating how children always go for the jugular? What I can't quite understand is that my haute couture clothes are frumpy but her outlandish outfits are 'cool'.

"OK, guys," I shouted, "that's it. Enough. You've had your fun. But don't think I won't remember this experience. Someday, someday, I'll have my revenge. Oh yes, I can taste the satisfaction already."

You see, I'm going to start hoarding souvenirs from all the phases of your lives. Then, when you have pre-teen children, I'm going to ship it all to you and time my arrival to coincide with the unpacking. We'll see how well you can explain those revolting garbage pail kids cards, or cabbage patch dolls, or jelly shoes, or tube pants, or sweatshirts that hang down to your knees, or...

As I paused for breath, I noticed that the little monsters had fled... probably to their rooms to get rid of some of the incriminating evidence.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| ACROSS                                     | DOWN                       |
| 1 Trading center                           | 1 Singer                   |
| 5 British noblemen                         | 2 Excited                  |
| 9 Market tote                              | 3 Pro —                    |
| 12 Culture medium                          | 4 Three-legged stand       |
| 13 Statesmen                               | 5 Prepares for publication |
| 14 System of arcades                       | 6 Cosmetic ingredient      |
| 15 Ballroom dances that end a ball         | 7 Operated                 |
| 17 Arthur of tennis fame                   | 8 Fly                      |
| 18 Ounce from France                       | 9 Dances from Brazil       |
| 19 Pertaining to the instep                | 10 Turkish title of honor  |
| 21 Pre-holiday times                       | 11 Highlands               |
| 22 — hand (help)                           |                            |
| 23 Furry swimmer                           |                            |
| 25 Lively dance to guitar and castanets    |                            |
| 28 Alias, in pol. records                  |                            |
| 29 Face, as an embankment                  |                            |
| 31 Old Greek marketplace                   |                            |
| 32 Fresh-water fishes                      |                            |
| 34 Fera                                    |                            |
| 36 Ballerina                               |                            |
| 37 "A Peach of —": 1930's song             |                            |
| 39 More certain                            |                            |
| 41 Leaf cutter                             |                            |
| 42 Dance named                             |                            |
| 44 Biblical verb                           |                            |
| 46 Choir member                            |                            |
| 47 Word on Japanese ships                  |                            |
| 48 The Islanders e.g.                      |                            |
| 50 Lively Spanish dances                   |                            |
| 53 Singer Felana                           |                            |
| 54 Dance or estate capital                 |                            |
| 57 Oven                                    |                            |
| 58 Israeli dances                          |                            |
| 59 Farmer or usher ending                  |                            |
| 60 — carts                                 |                            |
| 61 Is proprietor of                        |                            |
| 62 Chimney particles                       |                            |
| inhabitant                                 |                            |
| 13 Modifier                                |                            |
| 14 Measurements in football, collectively  |                            |
| 16 Devotee                                 |                            |
| 20 Time — half                             |                            |
| 22 At another time                         |                            |
| 23 Giffie's relative                       |                            |
| 24 Italian folk dances                     |                            |
| 25 Stuffed to the gills                    |                            |
| 26 Award                                   |                            |
| 27 Oven                                    |                            |
| 28 "I've Got — in Kalamazoo"               |                            |
| 30 Eye shade                               |                            |
| 33 Band member                             |                            |
| 35 Comes to mind                           |                            |
| 38 Baseball's Pitcher Ouran                |                            |
| 40 — show                                  |                            |
| 43 Boss                                    |                            |
| 45 Nightingale and others                  |                            |
| 47 Units of syllabic length in linguistics |                            |
| 48 Across Chase                            |                            |
| 49 What snakes do                          |                            |
| 50 Place for a dance                       |                            |
| 51 Palindromic name                        |                            |
| 52 Explorer De —                           |                            |
| 55 In what way                             |                            |
| 56 Court divider                           |                            |

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
SOLICIT HELP FROM THE ENEMY

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♠ Q 10 5 2

♥ A 4 3

♦ J 7 6

♣ A Q 2

WEST

♠ K 8 3

♥ 10 8 6 5

♦ A

♣ J 6 5 4 3

EAST

♠ J 6

♥ K Q J 9 2

♦ K Q 8 4

♣ 9 7

SOUTH

♠ A 9 7 4

♥ 7

♦ 10 9 5 3 2

♣ K 10 8

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♥ 1 ♠ 3 ♥

3 ♠ 4 ♥ 4 ♠ DBI

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♥

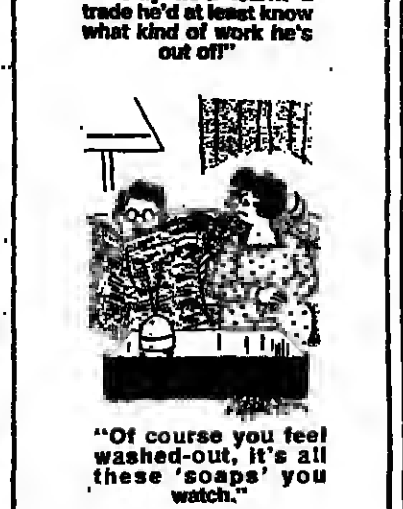
With two relatively balanced hands, 27 points are a realistic necessity to essay a major-suit game. When distributional factors come into account, throw all guidelines out of the window.

Despite the fact that each side has exactly 20 points, suggesting that even a two-level contract could be too high, both pairs can make nice tricks at a major-suit contract. But these competitive situations are difficult to judge, so it is usually right to bid one for insurance. South did just that, with a happy outcome.

West led a heart, and as soon as dummy appeared declarer saw that he was in danger of losing three diamond tricks and at least one

trump trick. After winning the ace of hearts, he led the jack of diamonds from dummy. East, remembering the old rubic to "cover and honor with an honor," played the queen and West won the trick a second time for his side when he produced the ace.

West shifted to a club (a heart continuation would be no better) and declarer won in dummy. To keep East off the lead he ran the queen of spades. West took the king and continued his attack on clubs. Declarer won on the table and led a low spade, fetching the jack and ace. After drawing the last trump with the ten, it was a simple matter to lead the seven of diamonds for a finesse against the eight, then to force out the king of diamonds. Declarer ended up losing only one trump trick and two diamonds.



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

TIERN MAIST CHATS  
IDEA ALTA RICHE  
KEEPONESSHIRTTON  
INFECT TANTARA  
STOP ERG  
ION AMIS KEATON  
SCI VANCE PALO  
HANGONTOTOURHAT  
ALEE STERN ONE  
MARTEN TRIS EDO  
ROO SEES  
MARINES NAPLES  
ONONESCOATTAILS  
STAGS ASTA INAT  
YENET REAL NESS

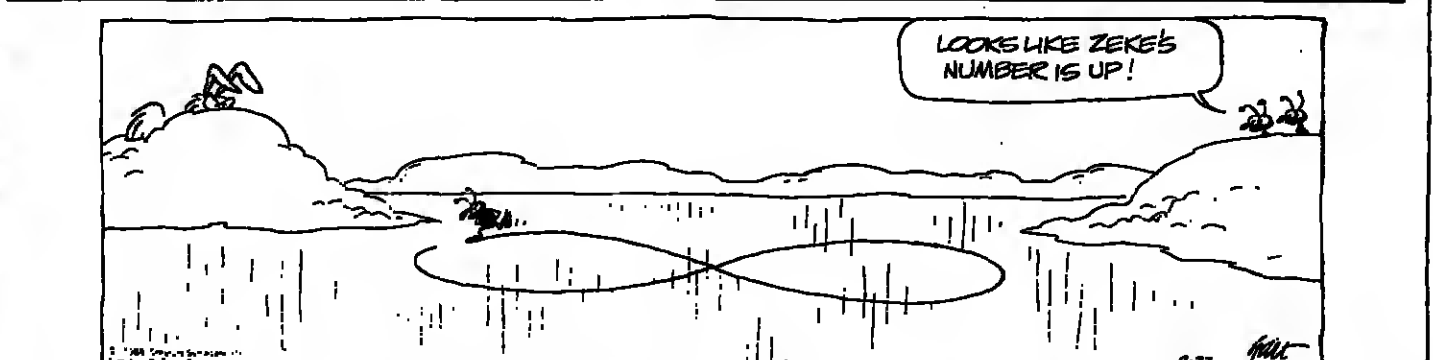
## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart














## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

 <b>Aries (March 20 - April 18)</b> You will find it easier to choose between alternatives. Avoid spending too long at work, your home life is equally important, if not more. Keep an eye on new developments. Be less obscure.	 <b>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</b> It is important for you not to lose control of your emotions. You will have a good idea but it may not convince others. Avoid putting all your eggs into one basket. Be generous.	 <b>Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)</b> If you say what you think without begin timid but whilst being tactful you will prevail. You should try to make sure of your facts. Do not break a firm promise. Be considerate.	 <b>Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)</b> You will have the courage of your convictions and others will respect you for it. Make sure you do not spend more than you can readily afford. Try to give as much as you receive. Be a little less introspective.
 <b>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</b> You must do all you can to avoid using yourself. You will have something to be pleased about. Try to avoid making yourself unpopular. Be less insistent.	 <b>Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)</b> You will be able to make even better progress than of late. Something you have been putting to one side should be tackled without further delay. Avoid being too sure of yourself. Be more accurate.	 <b>Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)</b> There will have to be a little give on your part. However this will result in concessions so you too will benefit. Make sure you do not eat more than you need to maintain your current weight. Be cordial.	 <b>Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)</b> You will be able to do something a little more positive. A tendency to act on impulse should be restrained. Make sure you do not resist change. Be prompt.
 <b>Gemini (May 20 - June 20)</b> You will be able to take advantage of a good opportunity. Your intuitive powers are liable to lead you astray. Make sure you do not say anything rude or impolite. Be sincere.	 <b>Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)</b> You will be a little unsure of yourself at first, more sure of yourself later in the day. You should not turn your back on what is obviously good advice. Avoid savings costs by skimping on repairs and maintenance. Be more resilient.	 <b>Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)</b> You should try to use just a little more commonsense. Avoid doing to others what you would not wish done to you. Have more faith in yourself. Be cautious.	 <b>Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)</b> You must avoid pretending to knowledge you have not got. Make sure you do not forget an important detail: make notes. Give others a chance. Be magnanimous.

# Superman turns fifty

By Judith Watson

NEW YORK, (UPI): Great Krypton Superman is turning 50. Gasp. Sob.

But the man of steel doesn't look a day older than when he blasted onto the planet in June 1938 and gave depression-weary readers a lift with his superhuman adventures and his 'never-ending battle for truth, justice and the American way'.

D.C. comics, which has steered Superman through one scrape after another since then, threw a birthday bash for their hero Feb 26, in New York and the CBS television network aired a one-hour TV special devoted to this most famous of costumed adventurers.

To the TV retrospective, viewers got a glimpse of the three different actors who portrayed the superhero — Kirk Allen, George Reeves and Christopher Reeve.

"In an age when heroes come and go all too quickly, where fame is transient and celebrity and notoriety are an issue instead of heroism, Superman is a hero who truly endures and will do so in the future," said Jenette Kahn, D.C. comics president and publisher.

When you consider how radically public tastes and interests have changed during the past 50 years, you appreciate just how significant a milestone this is, she added.

The idea for Superman sprang from the brains of two

Ohio high school students in 1933-34 as they worked together on their school paper — Jerry Siegel, writer and Joe Shuster, artist.

For four years, they tried to sell their comic strip hero to newspaper publishers or syndicates and for four years, got rejection slips. The verdict was that their character lacked lasting appeal.

In 1938, the company that became D.C. comics was looking for a fresh new character to lead off a new comic book and convinced the duo to paste their strips together into comic book fashion.

Action comics No. 1 was the result. It was an instant success selling a million copies. Superman has graced every cover of action comics since, even though in 1939, he became the first hero to have his own regular comic book title, too.

From the first issue, Superman was body beautiful — able to hurdle 28-story buildings, run faster than an express train, ricochet bullets off his tough skin, lift autos off the ground and smash them into bits, and hang tough out to dry on telephone poles.

The only thing he couldn't do, even then, was get ace reporter Lois Lane to give Clark Kent the time of day because, as she told his alter-ego, "you're a spineless, unbearable coward."

Over the past 50 years, changing mores and new teams of artists and writers have shaped stylistic changes in Superman and his world. Clark Kent no longer wears a bat, dresses less like a square and works out on a outlandish machine. He once jumped into bed with Lois in Superman II — but only once.

In fact, the whole comic book market has grown up. The average Superman reader, according to Kahn, is 19 1/2 years old and attends college. Today's fans write letters to the editor pointing out inconsistencies in story lines or details. And at comic book conventions, they trade and sell items in their collections for prices ranging up to \$25,000 per issue.

Meanwhile, the man of steel has spawned a multi-million dollar industry for D.C. comics and its parent company, Warner brothers.



As Superman blasts into the next 50 years, current issues like AIDS may feature in future story lines.

It started with comic books and strips, moved into a radio show and animated cartoons, expanded into a TV series, four movies, and now includes videos and franchised products ranging from peanut butter and pretzels to the best-selling boy's pajamas in history.

As Superman blasts into the next 50 years, Kahn predicted a shift in emphasis from plot lines to issues of character and a continuation of changes launched in 1936 by author-artist John Byrne to which Supermao has become more human.

"By the 1970s, Superman had every power imaginable, but he was no longer vulnerable," explained Kahn. "It was harder for readers to be involved — they already knew the outcome. Now he's more at risk. The reader can wonder what is going to happen."

Superman will continue to

grow with the times, while keeping his basic decent qualities, she promised. In recent years, he has encountered aliens and drug dealers and Kahn does not rule out the possibility of portraying current issues like homelessness or even AIDS in future story lines.

Why has Superman enjoyed such a devoted following through the years?

"He represents a number of fantasies we have for ourselves," explained Kahn. "We all believe we have a special secret self inside, like Clark Kent, no matter how ordinary we appear." We all share the fantasy of personal flight. Superman is one hero whom absolute power cannot corrupt. And he is our protector — a benevolent, powerful and caring person out there looking out for us," she said.





By Victoria McKee

MORE and more people are dying of heart disease every year.

Meanwhile we are bombarded from all sides with enough conflicting advice to cause the stress some believe to be a contributory factor to coronary disease.

In the past month, both aspirin and baked beans have been hailed as possible protectors. The bad news is that aspirin may also heighten the risk of brain haemorrhage and the beans would need to be consumed in outpouring quantities to have any effect.

However, the latest evidence from America could have some impact. The most interesting discovery is that coronary disease is not an equal opportunity disease. In fact, it is one of the most gender-discriminating diseases around. Although it is the leading killer of both men and women over 65, below the age of 50 it causes five male deaths to every one female death. Over 50 the figure is two to one.

It was thought for some time that the female hormone oestrogen — although associated with blood clotting, which can lead to heart attacks — provided premenopausal women with an inbuilt immunity to heart trouble. Now it is accepted that this is a simplistic view.

An English woman doctor who is one of the mainstays of the United States National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, Millicent Higgins, has discovered new and disturbing sex-linked characteristics of heart disease. She is part of the team working on the renowned Framingham Heart Disease Epidemiology Study, which is celebrating a half and hearty 40th birthday this year.

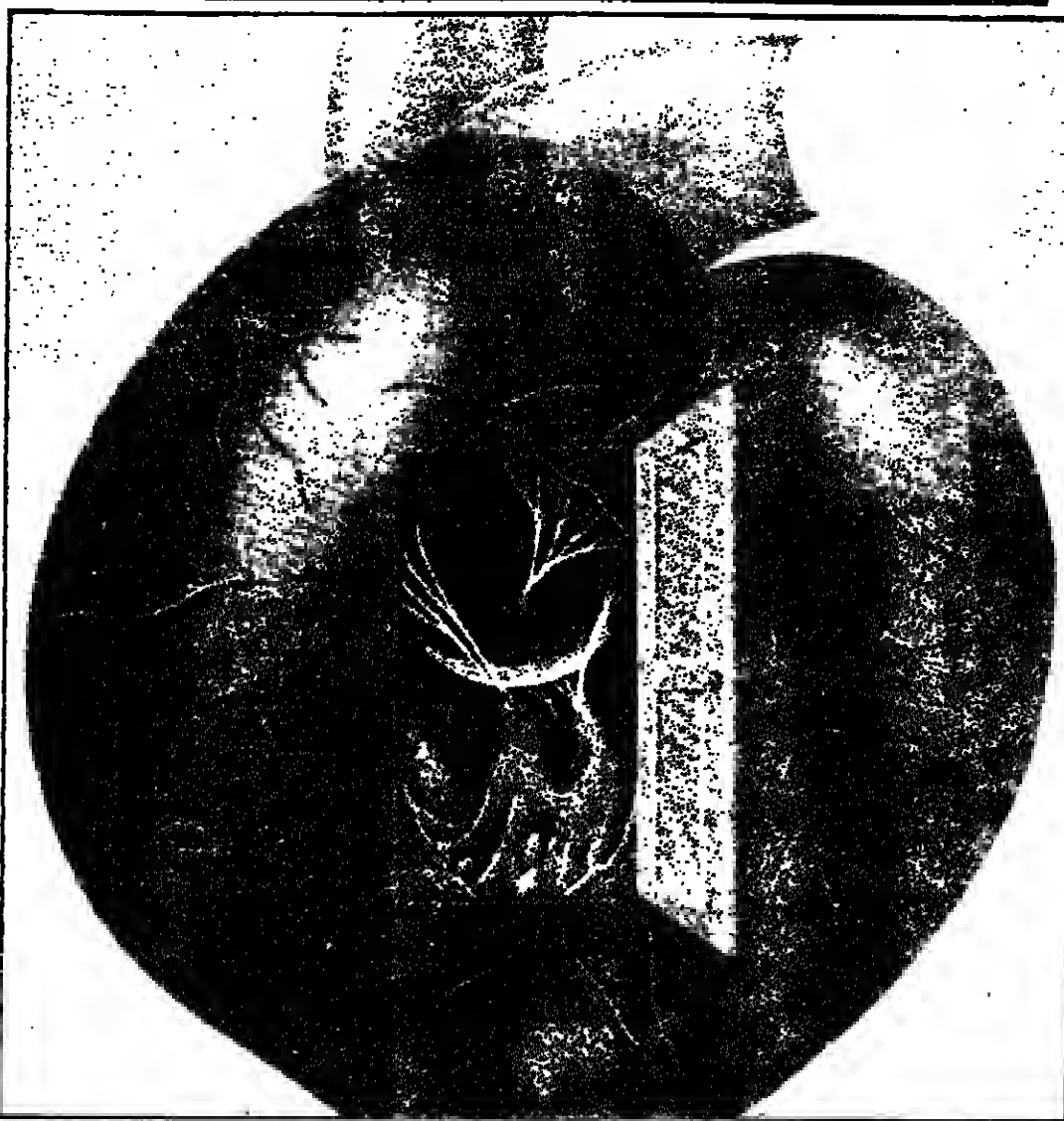
Framingham is a town in Massachusetts which volunteered 5,000 of its inhabitants for a lifetime's observation as part of an inquiry into the causes of heart disease. Until recently, most heart studies were carried out almost exclusively on men, and the results were assumed to apply also to women. But at Framingham both men and women are being observed and, Higgins believes, vital differences have been revealed.

**Pains**  
Women, Higgins says, display different symptoms of heart disease to men and may consequently be misdiagnosed — or missed entirely. Lack of understanding of the differences can lead to women being accused of hypochondria or malingering.

Women often experience pains or a sensation of pressure in the chest on and off for a considerable time before having a heart attack, whereas with men pain is usually a sign that an attack is starting.

## Heart of the matter

Most heart studies are based on men and their results assumed to apply to women. An American study believes, however, that at heart the sexes differ, and that many women may be misdiagnosed.



New research into heart disease shows that it is a most gender-discriminating killer.

If they do have a heart attack, women are twice as likely as men to die within 60 days. Women are at risk of heart disease if they have a high level of triglycerides (fats which contribute to the carrying of cholesterol to blood vessels and are associated with clogging of the arteries) in their blood even if they do not have dangerously high cholesterol levels. In men, triglycerides without a correspondingly high cholesterol count are not significant.

Women have smaller hearts, more difficult to operate on than men's, and statistically die only half as well as men in bypass surgery. Women also usually develop coronary heart disease later in life than men, but heart disease becomes the number one killer of women in their mid-sixties.

Mothers tend to have wider coronary arteries, which could help to explain their greater protection from early heart attacks.

Diabetes, with its negative

effects on the circulatory system, makes women more susceptible to heart disease in their early years, too, and puts them on a par with men.

Higgins, an epidemiologist from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, who went to America in 1959 to work on the Framingham study and stayed, explains: "Initially there was major concern about heart attacks being more prevalent in middle-aged men, so the statistics focused on men. Our study is one of the few to have included women at all — and as heart attacks occur less frequently in women, and usually when they are older, it has taken much longer to build up any evidence."

They were men and women, aged between 30 and 62 when the project started, and although many of the original sampling are now dead and the youngest are over 70, their offspring and spouses have been recruited to carry on the work. "The study does not involve treatment or recommending

changes in lifestyle," Higgins says. "It is observational only. But at last, and for the first time, we have enough women in the heart disease age range to make some meaningful observations."

Studies in monkeys have indicated that while hearts and blood vessels of both sexes have suitable receptors for the female hormone oestrogen, women are less able to accommodate testosterone and other "male" hormones released under stress. But Higgins is not convinced that this lends weight to the notion that women in aggressive, "masculine" jobs are likely to develop a masculine susceptibility to heart disease or, indeed, that stress in itself is a major factor in causing heart disease.

"I think people should change their diets and cut out smoking instead of worrying too much about stress," Higgins says.

What concerns her, and Dr

William Castelli, the director of the Framingham study, is the difficulty in diagnosing women with developing heart disease until it is too late. Castelli blames "the myth that women don't get heart attacks" for allowing serious symptoms to be ignored. Higgins worries about the frightening proportion of "silent symptoms" or "atypical symptoms" which can be a woman's only warning of an imminent heart attack.

A large proportion of Americans are now routinely given electrocardiograms, blood cholesterol tests and lipid measure assessments with their annual medical check-ups. In Britain such tests are rare, and still given only when suspicious symptoms seem to warrant them. In women, it now seems, these symptoms can come too late.

Further studies are being undertaken by the American Heart Institute into the relationship between female hormones and the heart. Additional community health studies have been launched in the US and in Britain. In London, Professor Gerry Shaper, professor of clinical epidemiology at the Royal Free Hospital School, is director of the British Regional Heart Study which was begun eight years ago with a sample of 8,000 men and no women.

"Because women have heart attacks at a rate roughly one fifth that of men, we would have to add to that some 36,000 women to have enough heart attacks to study," is how Shaper explains the omission. "And it isn't conjecture — men are most at risk."

**Impressed**  
He is impressed by the results of surveys undertaken into the positive effects of olive and other mono-saturated oils on the heart and sees them as even more significant than the fish oil furore that started a few years ago, when it was noticed that Eskimos in their natural habitat had a low rate of heart disease.

"Certainly using olive oil in your diet is easy and has no disadvantages that I can see, except that large intakes of any fat will increase weight. But there has been renewed interest in fish oils because it has been discovered that they lower triglycerides. I would say that in both men and women, high triglyceride levels can be related to heart disease."

In Scotland, which with Northern Ireland has one of the highest rates for heart attacks in the world, more than 10,000 men and women, all volunteers, have been screened during the past two years. "The population is ageing," Higgins warns. "And after the age of 65, two thirds of it is female. So people are at last waking up to the fact that there is a problem."

That, at least is heartening.

## New theory on salt intake

By Larry Doyle

CHICAGO (UPI) — In a study that "shatters the myth of the salt shaker," researchers have found that people fed a low-sodium diet but allowed to season their food to taste will end up cutting their salt intake by 40 per cent anyway.

"For years people have been saying that if you want to restrict salt take away the salt shaker, but I think this shows people won't put too much salt on their food unless it's already in there," says Gary Beauchamp, a biopsychologist at the Monell Chemical Senses Center.

"It's nice to reaffirm common sense," concurs co-researcher Dr Karl Engelmann, of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

The researchers, who published their study recently in the Journal of the American Medical Association, say their findings could be a boon for people who want to restrict their salt intake to control blood pressure but find low-sodium foods unpalatable.

The study also suggests that the main source of excess salt in the American diet is not on the table, as is frequently suggested, but hidden in processed and prepared foods, says Beauchamp.

"This really shatters the myth of the salt shaker," he says. "I would hope it would also send a message to food manufacturers that they don't need to add as much salt as they traditionally have, but I do think that public will have to change their taste and buying habits as well."

Daily salt consumption in the United States averages between 6 to 18 grams a day, a level considered far above the body's requirements. An essential mineral, salt can cause or aggravate high blood pressure if taken in excess, and many authorities believe all Americans would do well to limit their consumption. Others contend only those with high blood pressure, or who are sensitive to salt, need to restrict their intake.

But getting people to cut back on salt is another, Engelmann says.

"People like salt. They're used to it," he says. "If you put them on a low-sodium diet and tell them to put away their salt shaker, they'll end up hating it and unless they have a pressing reason to do so, they won't stay on it."

However, Beauchamp and Engelmann have found it is possible to reduce salt intake without sacrificing taste.

Over a 14-week study, 11 college undergraduates were fed a low-salt diet but allowed free access to a pre-weighted salt shaker. The subjects were not told the purpose of the study and were encouraged to season their food as they wished.

The researchers found that although the sodium in the food was half of what the students were used to, the salt they added only made up for 20 per cent of the deficit, leading to a 40 per cent reduction in overall salt intake.

Beauchamp hypothesises that the students ate less salt because "by putting it on the outside of the food, it more easily reached their salt receptors, and satisfied their need for perceived saltiness."

SCIENTISTS have taken a first step towards reversing one of the worst effects of ageing — but so far the experiments have only rejuvenated rats.

When people grow old, their defences against infection and cancerous tumours deteriorate. White blood cells called T cells lose their ability to respond to invaders because the gland that controls them, the thymus in the neck, degenerates.

Dr Keith Kelley and his team at the University of Illinois have succeeded in regenerating the thymus glands of old rats, thus rejuvenating their decrepit immune systems.

## Hearing loss: what can be done

By Maxwell Abramson, M D

Q. IS old age the principal cause of hearing loss?

A. No. Although the incidence of hearing loss is greater among older people, it is not just a matter of tissues deteriorating as they age. Rather, behaviour — such as the habit of listening to loud music — and trauma over the years — such as minor head injuries — account for most cases of hearing loss.

Q. Are there different types of hearing loss?

A. Yes. Hearing loss may be experienced in one or more of the three major parts of the ear, the characteristics of hearing loss depend on which area is affected.

Hearing loss in the outer ear — the visible portion of the ear and the outer ear canal, which conducts sound waves into the ear — is usually due to clogging of the ear canal itself. Blockage by wax or skin that's been shed can cause a hearing loss of up to 30 per cent. A common infection, known as external otitis, is another cause of blockage. In this condition, excessive moisture in the ears (as occurs in swimmers) swells the wax and/or diminishes the skin's barrier properties, allowing bacteria to travel deeper into the ear.

The middle ear is the chamber that magnifies sound waves and transmits them to the inner ear. The Eustachian tube, the canal that connects the middle ear to the throat, helps equalise pressure within the ear with external atmospheric pressure.

The Eustachian tube is usually the source of middle ear hearing loss. For example, in otitis media, a congenital condition especially common in children, the tube is too soft and flexible, and thus fails both to keep nasal secretions out of the middle ear and to open promptly in response to air-pressure changes. An infection can result.

The inner ear contains the main hearing mechanisms: the hearing nerve and the cochlea. These are the parts of the ear most affected by ageing, but they are also particularly sensitive to loud noise. In fact, loud noise can "actually destroy" certain critical hair cells in the cochlea, which are responsible for transforming sound waves into a form of energy that the hearing nerve can understand.

Q. How can you tell which part of the ear has been affected?

A. For the person experiencing hearing loss, it is difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish which part of the ear is causing it. However, an otolaryngologist (a doctor specialising in the care of the ears, nose and

throat) can usually diagnose the problem by reviewing a medical history, performing a physical examination and evaluating the results of a hearing test administered by an audiologist.

Q. Once correctly diagnosed, how is hearing loss treated?

A. If a person experiences blockage in the outer ear, a doctor may remove the buildup or recommend various other treatments, such as over-the-counter wax softeners or mineral oil to loosen wax plugs and ease their removal. Outer ear infections are treated by ear drops containing either antibiotics that kill bacteria or steroids that reduce swelling. In both cases, the hearing loss is usually completely reversible.

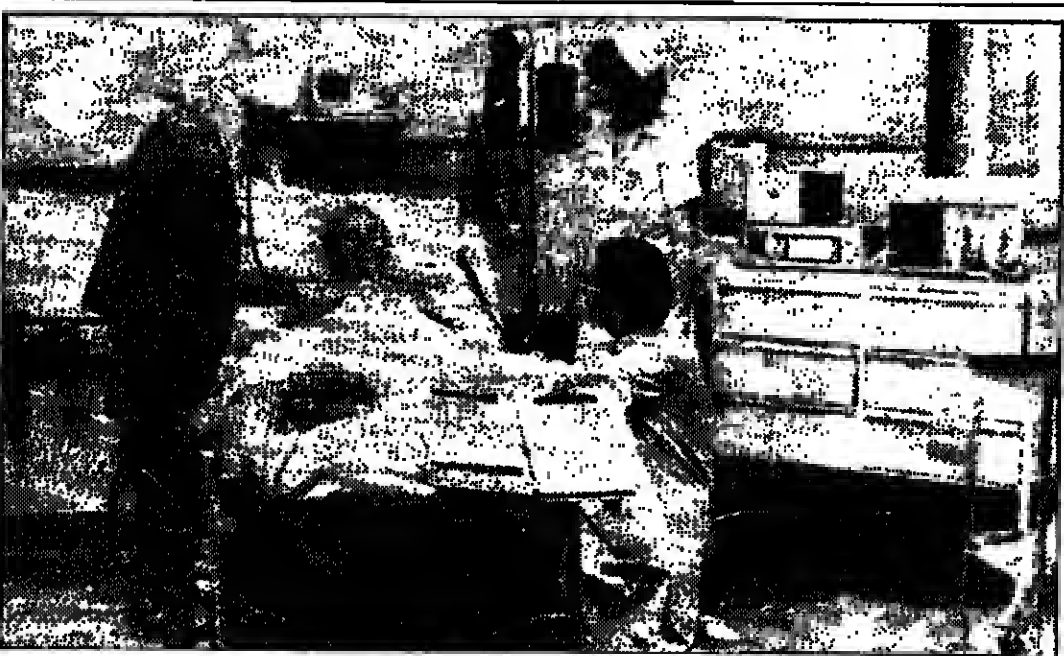
Middle ear infections are usually treated successfully with oral antibiotics. Chronic infections, however, sometimes require surgical removal of infected tissue. When hearing is diminished because of chronic infections, it is usually not completely restored by surgery, although reconstructive microsurgery can substantially improve the results.

Hearing loss of the inner ear, on the other hand, is much more difficult to treat. Inner ear cells can recover from mild injury, but once these tissues have been seriously damaged, they cannot be repaired. Most patients with inner ear hearing loss are fitted with a hearing aid by an audiologist; advancements in microelectronics have made hearing aids better and barely noticeable.

Q. Can hearing loss be prevented?

A. Usually, yes. The following precautions can help prevent hearing loss:

- Refrain from "cleaning" the ear with a cotton swab — the ear is self-cleaning organ. Inserting anything into the ear can scratch the skin and push wax and skin further into the canal.
- If you blow your nose, do so one nostril at a time, gently pressing the other nostril closed. This allows pressure in the ear to remain equalised and minimises the chance the nasal secretions will be forced through the Eustachian tube into the middle ear.
- Avoid exposure to noise levels that are so high that you have to shout to be heard. If you must be in this kind of environment, place silicone putty or noise-reducing earplugs (both available in drugstores) in the outer ear canal. Cotton is not an effective noise block.
- Wear protective ear guards if you are subjected to sharp blasts of sound in your workplace.



The need for blood transfusions after surgery has been cut by more than ninety per cent by new application of the drug aprotinin.

## New use of drug reduces need for blood transfusion

THE need for blood transfusions after surgery has been cut by more than 90 per cent in a series of open heart operations at two London hospitals, as a result of new use of the drug aprotinin.

The drug was first developed for the treatment of acute pancreatitis and patients undergoing repeat open-heart surgery. Its role was to combat the very high risk of post-operative bleeding.

The exact action of the drug is not yet known but it is believed it protects the blood platelets that play a vital part in coagulation.

It has been used to reduce blood loss after surgery in West Germany but with only limited success. Now surgeons at Hammersmith Hospital and Humana Hospital Wellington, both in London, have used higher doses during open heart surgery on 11 patients.

According to "The Lancet" medical magazine, seven of the 11 patients given the drug from the start of anaesthesia until the end of the operation did not need a transfusion after surgery. By comparison, the blood loss of 11 patients who did not receive the drug was eight times greater.

In another series of less complicated operations for coronary artery bypass, 80 per cent of patients given the drug did not need donor blood.

An editorial in the magazine says of the results: "High dose aprotinin appears to offer major reductions in peri-operative blood loss and transfusion requirements in cardiac surgery. Its role in non-cardiac surgery is uncertain, but warrants urgent investigation."

ANSWER: Body wraps, lotions, ointments and vibrators may provide fleeting relief, but, in general, they offer no long-term help to the arthritis sufferer.

Vibrators for arthritis come in various sizes, shapes and prices. They range in price from a few dollars to a few hundred dollars. Advertisers claim the machines vibrate the arthritic joint, massaging away the surrounding excess fluid.

The body wraps and ointments are supposed to be applied to the skin and then wrapped for maximum heat absorption. They seem to offer only temporary, minor relief.

Some doctors have found the massages actually can be harmful to a arthritic joint. I know how desperate some arthritic sufferers get, seeking some relief, any relief, from the constant pain and aches. But for my money, and yours, this is not the way to go. Before buying one of these questionable arthritis remedies, have a talk with your own physician.

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## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

## FEMALE BALDNESS MAY INDICATE UNDERLYING DISEASE

QUESTION: I know men expect to lose their hair, but I am a woman and am losing mine. What can be wrong?

ANSWER: Baldness (alopecia) is caused by a variety of inherited, congenital, toxic and systemic conditions. In men, it generally can be traced to a family history of pattern baldness, as well as recent illnesses, medications or environmental factors such as exposure to toxins. In women, baldness may be an indication of more serious underlying disease.

One of the major reasons for hair loss in women is an overproduction of male hormones, most commonly testosterone. Excessive levels of these hormones can cause facial hair, enlargement of the clitoris, irregular periods, muscularity and loss of breast size. When the level of testosterone reaches the normal male range, scalp hair begins to thin out.

Among the many reasons for abnormal androgen secretion are ovarian tumors, ovarian cysts, adrenal tumors, congenital malfunctioning of the adrenal gland and certain drugs such as Danazol which are

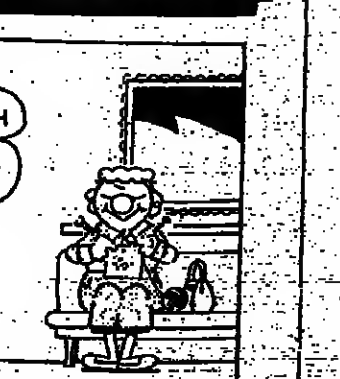
themselves treated androgens.

The first thing your doctor will do is obtain a detailed history, including onset of the problem and any medications you might be taking. If alopecia has been a problem in the past (prior to puberty) or if a woman is menopausal, ovarian or adrenal tumors are prime suspects. Your doctor also will note the distribution of bodyhair in general, because a male hair pattern is suggestive of high testosterone levels. Your doctor then may order a few laboratory tests to confirm the diagnosis.

Treatment of androgenic alopecia is always cause-specific. For instance, excising the tumor will normalise hormone levels. If there is no definable reason for the increased endocrine activity, estrogen/progesterone combinations may be given to suppress the release of androgen.

QUESTION: Can you cure arthritis with hot body wraps and massages? I have arthritis and the prescriptions I've been given help, but they don't solve the problem. I've seen ads for many arthritis remedies in magazines. Do they work?

## ANDY CAPP



By Smith



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Al Saquer opens seminar

## Bid to promote Kuwait investment in France



Al Saquer (third left) pictured with other participants.

By Keith Wells

OVER 150 people attended a seminar entitled "Kuwaiti Investments in France, Present Status and Prospects," which was held at the Meridien Hotel yesterday.

Sponsored by the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Cercle Franco-Pays Arabes, the seminar was designed to provide an overview of all the different areas in the French economy which are suitable for Kuwaiti investment.

The seminar was opened by Abdul Aziz Al Saquer, chairman of Kuwait Chamber of Commerce, M. Yves Guena, the chairman of the Cercle Franco-Pays Arabes and the French Ambassador M. Marcel Laugel were also present.

The morning session was introduced by J. C. Empeur, deputy general manager of the Kuwait-French Bank whose

chairman, Sheikh Mubarak Jaber Al Sabah was one of the guests of honour at the seminar.

Empeur's introduction was followed by speakers who dealt with France's financial markets, banking system, insurance industry as well as direct investments in French industry and infrastructure projects.

**Projects**  
Speaking on the latter topic, was M. Leclerc, general manager of Bouygues, which is the second largest construction firm in the world with an annual turnover of \$9 billion.

Among the projects that Bouygues has handled in the Middle East are the Buihyan Bridge in Kuwait, the University of Riyadh, the Hassan II Mosque in Morocco, the Semiramis Hotel in Egypt and the Damascus Water Supply Project in Syria.

M. Leclerc went on to discuss several major upcoming projects

which all require private sector financing as examples of the sort of thing which Kuwaiti investors could find of interest.

After adjourning for lunch, the seminar continued in the evening with presentations on investment opportunities in the tourism, hotel and entertainment industries as well as direct real estate investment opportunities. Attended by major French and Kuwaiti companies and institutions the seminar was an important step in the promotion of Kuwaiti investment in the French economy.

**KUNA adds:** Al Saquer expressed the hope that the current level of Franco-Arab investment cooperation is far less from mirroring geographic and cultural proximity and political understanding between the two nations.

"Responsibility for this shortcoming should definitely be shared by the two sides,"

Some of those who attended the seminar

president of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Al Saquer said.

Al Saquer noted that the industrial sector benefitted only slightly from geographic proximity between France and the Arab world though they could supplement each other to establish a string of successful industries, especially engineering and petrochemicals.

"French technology and expertise can combine with Arab capital and manpower in non-oil producing Arab countries to launch a series of joint industrial ventures in both the Arab world and France," he added.

Al Saquer argued that Franco-Kuwait investment should not be confined to joint projects inside France or Kuwait only, but could be based in Arab or other developing countries, and with support from both governments and their citizens.

The veteran Kuwaiti econ-

omist emphasised that Franco-Arab investments cooperation are not bound with one single factor such as Arab oil supplies to France or sales of advanced arms by France to the Arab world, but are governed by common interests in the first place.

Al Saquer praised the strength of Franco-Arab economic and political relations, and attributed the growth of ties to the historic stance of former French President Charles de Gaulle, who strongly opposed the 1967 Israeli aggression against the Arab nation.

**Option**

The chamber chief said bilateral cooperation between France and the Arab nation could be a temporary phase that strengthens or weakens as a result of economic interests, or, as a second case, can be a strategic stance based on a mutual need for political, security and civilisational

integration.

"We Arabs have chosen the second option, and believe that France's civilised background and future aspirations leave her only with the second path as well," the Kuwaiti official added.

Turning to Kuwaiti investments abroad, Al Saquer pointed out that these account for the second biggest source of national income after oil revenues.

Having such an important long-term and strategic role in the national economy, he said, Kuwaiti investments need safeguards to ensure maximum profitability and stability.

Hestressed that Kuwait is concerned to integrate its huge foreign investments into the national economic cycle, a process that leads to numerous other issues such as training cadres, transfer of technology and liaison with other financial, industrial and consultancy institutions.

## World Business Summary

### IMF studying proposal to set up new borrowing facility

WASHINGTON, March 8, (Opecna): The International Monetary Fund (IMF) may set up a borrowing facility for developing countries which will entitle debtor nations to get the benefit of some discount in the valuation of their debt. The plan put forward by Dr Arjun Sengupta of India, one of the fund's 22 executive directors, is similar to those advanced in recent months in the banking and academic community.

However, this is the first time that the 151-nation IMF which lends to debtor countries trying to improve their economic performance has formally taken up such experimental ideas.

The proposal comes in the wake of a call by the fund's managing director, Michel Camdessus, for "imaginative schemes" to help reduce the crushing debt burden of many members. While the fate of Sengupta's proposal is uncertain, it seems most likely that the fund will produce some innovative plan on developing countries' debt.

The plan presented by Sengupta will ensure that debtor countries get the benefit of a portion of the discount that markets and most large banks have recognised in the valuation of the debt. Officials said his plan was received with interest by several member nations, including some in Latin America and Europe, when he presented it to the IMF board last week. The United States opposes the plan because it involves additional obligations that would have to be assumed by the fund.

Treasury Secretary James Baker reiterated before a congressional committee last week American opposition to any plan which would require help from taxpayers of creditor countries. Under the Sengupta plan, the IMF debt facility will buy a portion of a country's debt at the agreed discount, giving its own bonds to the banks. The country's obligation would then be to the fund.

However, before the country would get the agreed part of its debt written off, it would have to commit itself to pursuing a major economic improvement programme monitored by the fund. The cost of the programme would be the contingent liability which IMF assumes in issuing bonds to commercial banks while hoping that the debtor country continues to service the remaining portion of the debt.

### Jewellery Industry gets a boost

HONG KONG, March 8, (Xinhua): Craftsmen in Hong Kong turned out about 40 per cent more jewellery products last year in terms of value, according to the Hong Kong Trade Development Council's jewellery advisory committee.

The export value of Hong Kong's jewellery grew by 42 per cent to 5.1 billion Hong Kong dollars last year, compared with a 25 per cent annual increase in 1986, committee chairman David Sin said at a press conference yesterday. Sin said the annual Hong Kong jewellery show will be held from March 23 to 26 this year which is expected to draw more buyers.

Japan expanded its share of Hong Kong's jewellery exports from the 14 per cent in 1986 to 21 per cent in 1987. Meanwhile, Hong Kong also imported 30 per cent more unprocessed items from Israel, India, Belgium and the United States last year, according to a report by a local newspaper.

Meanwhile, Hong Kong's trade surplus with the United States remained substantial last year, after it recorded a small growth of one per cent over 1986, the "South China Morning Post" has reported. In 1987, Hong Kong sold \$10.5 billion worth of goods to the US, its biggest trading partner, while importing \$4 billion worth of American goods.

## Yeutter calls on EEC to help reform world farm trade

GENEVA, March 8, (Reuters): US trade representative Clayton Yeutter yesterday urged the European Economic Community to help reform world farm trade as a way of tackling the problems of high food surpluses and low prices.

Yeutter and US Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng had held private bilateral talks here with Guy Le Gras, director general of agriculture for the 12-nation community.

Yeutter told a news conference that US and EEC views remained far apart on how to reform global farm trade under the 105-nation Uruguay round negotiations being held here under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

"It is imperative this gap be bridged. The alternative is chaos," he said. "The present European view is unrealistic because if maintained it would ensure total chaos in agricultural trade."

The United States wants to end farm subsidies around the world by the year 2000. The EEC has resisted such a move. Yeutter said he would seek an early reform package at a mid-term ministerial review of the round, set for Montreal in December, but it was too early to define its content.

"We are determined to have concrete results emerge on agriculture at the mid-term review... I hope there is ample motivation on the part of our trading partners," Yeutter said.

Lyng said he was disappointed by a decision of EEC leaders at a Brussels summit last month to curb farm spending by restructuring output in certain goods.

## Plan to open securities exchange

BUDAPEST, March 8, (Xinhua): Hungary will open its first securities exchange soon, a Hungarian financial source said yesterday.

Andre Kosztolony, a well-known Hungarian financial expert, told an International Conference on Securities Exchanges in Socialist countries that all necessary conditions for setting up a stock and securities exchange were being prepared.

The international conference was held March 4-6 at the Hilton Hotel here with the participation of more than 50 foreign financial experts from China, Britain, the United States, Austria, France and West Germany, among others.

A Hungarian delegate to the conference said that the effective use of funds was a key in its economic development and that developing money markets was indispensable to Hungary with its intentions of developing a market-oriented economy.

So far securities and bonds worth 30 billion forints (\$6 billion) and stocks valued at 10 billion forints have been issued in Hungary.

## Kuwaitis to finance project

## Plan to set up factory to produce Vidasil

By Jadranka Porter

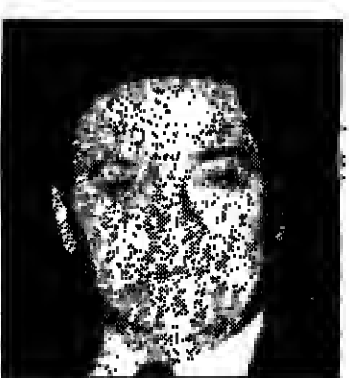
THERE may come a time in the not too distant future when Kuwait will drastically cut down the use of air-conditioning systems, and when its buildings and oil installations will be fireproof. No, the climate is not about to change and no amount of caution will prevent occasional destruction by fire.

But human ability to fight heat has recently got a boost unparalleled in recent history. It comes in the form of a material known as Vidasil, invented by a Yugoslav scientist Mrs Vida Popovic and recognised as the best heat-resistant material in the world capable of bringing about revolutionary advances in construction, electrical engineering and heavy industry such as automobile and arms production, shipbuilding and aircraft manufacturing.

**Capabilities**  
Vidasil has now been brought to Kuwait by Milutin Mrkonjic, the general manager of CIP traffic institute in Belgrade, a scientific research establishment which is known for its engineering design capabilities particularly in road and railway construction.

Vida Popovic, who invented the material which was named after her, a frail woman of 50 who has singlehandedly worked for years before hitting the right formula, is now CIP's senior scientist. She also runs a small factory 200 km outside Belgrade.

The Kuwaitis and Yugoslavs have now joined hands and are



Milutin Mrkonjic: If you cover a truck with Vidasil you have a refrigerator

hammering out plans to set up a factory in Kuwait to produce Vidasil which would supply the whole of the Middle East and the Third World.

Yugoslavs are bringing with them the know-how and new technologies, the Kuwaitis are expected to provide the financing.

Negotiations are under way with the Boodai Corporation and plans are being laid out to start the project within the next few months. Feelings of enthusiasm are running high on both sides. "The Kuwaitis are brimming with interest," Mrkonjic told the Arab Times.

"Just imagine a tank which hit by gunfire cannot be set ablaze because it is coated with Vidasil. Or think of a ship hit by a missile which does not erupt in flames. If you cover a truck with Vidasil you have a refrigerator," enthuses Mrkonjic.

He is excited with good reason. Vidasil has been attested by top

scientific authorities in Europe. The material won Mrs Popovic the Grand Prix at the World Innovations Exhibition — the Eureka Salon in 1986. When the material was tested by the jury it was placed into a machine which can develop heat of over 6,000 degrees centigrade. Eventually the machine was smouldered into pieces while Vidasil remained intact.

The qualities of the substance are such that it looks like Mrs Popovic had Kuwait in mind when she invented it. Its working resistance to heat is 1,600 degrees centigrade. It prevents heat and sound penetration and absorbs vibrations exceptionally well. It is light and not affected by sand, salt or humidity.

**Licence**  
All this was not lost on the leading manufacturers of thermal insulation materials worldwide. Companies from all over the world including China, the Soviet Union, Italy and France were vying to lay their hands on the Vidasil licence.

But Mrs Popovic and Mrkonjic were wary of offers which smacked of greed. Mrs Popovic has said that money making is not the reason why she spent years working long hours to produce this incombustible substance.

Now that she has succeeded she believes that Vidasil should be available for use in the whole world.

This is why CIP proceeded with caution when it came to making arrangements for the material's production and marketing. After a careful review of all

offers the team decided to hold negotiations with the Canadians which are still underway.

Kuwait is so far the only other country chosen to participate in

the project. "We opted for Kuwait also because we have had traditionally sound and friendly relations with the Gulf state," says Mrkonjic.

## The Arab European Financial Management Co.

### Welcomes the French Delegation to Kuwait.

The delegation represents the financial and industrial sector of France.

AREF have been dealing in the French markets for the past 10 years and they are the only company in Kuwait to have built up a comprehensive expertise in French investment.

AREF offers the full range of investment opportunities and their clients have taken advantage of many services, some are highlighted below.

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**AREFIM** - real estate, specialises in selecting prime real estate investment projects for AREF clients. They have an order book of over FF 400 million.

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**FRANCE CROISSANCE INVESTISSEMENT** (FED) - Luxembourg, a leading company investing in French industrial and growth companies achieved returns in 1987 of over 25% on investments made. (Sommer, Alcatel, Renault, etc.).

For more information please contact Tel: 2410180 (5 Lines).

The Arab European Financial Management Co. S.A.K. (AREF). Souk Al Safat Building

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## MITI suffers identity crisis

TOKYO, March 8, (Reuters): Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), feared and admired worldwide as the mastermind behind the country's industrial might, is suffering an identity crisis.

The ministry, which channelled Japan's export drive by backing industries with funds and advice, now finds itself without a clear-cut role as Tokyo struggles to reduce its huge trade surplus.

"Their former mission was to help Japan catch up economically (with the West)," said Johnsen Takashahi, research director of the private Mitsubishi Research Institute. "When the target was clear it was easy to do. Now they don't know the target."

**Task**  
Ministry officials themselves are divided on what comes next. Some believe MITI's main task is to manage the shift of Japan's economy to a post-industrial structure based on financial services like banks and high-tech communications.

Others want it to become a leader on the international economic scene, challenging the

foreign and finance ministries.

Behind the search for a new role is the erosion of MITI's ability to act as the architect of Japan's industrial might.

The stage was set for a reduced MITI role more than a decade ago when the ministry gave up the power to allocate scarce foreign currencies, economists said.

**Problem**  
"The question of which industries should develop was a priority problem and MITI decided what should be the targets," said Hirohiko Okumura, chief economist at Nomura Research Institute. "Now, after the complete liberalisation of foreign exchange policy... MITI's role in that area declined."

Japanese companies, once nurtured by MITI, are now turning their backs on a ministry they no longer need for cheap funds or licensing approval. "No one goes to MITI now—they have nothing to give us," boasted one businessman.

A shift in Japan's economy from one centred on basic export industries to one led by financial services and information technologies has also eroded MITI's

power base, making it vulnerable to challenges from rival ministries.

This changing environment has left the ministry in a quandary, some analysts and businessmen said.

**Growth**  
MITI no longer guides Japanese industries toward faster growth. Instead, it often tries to restrain them to quell foreign criticism of Japan's trade surplus, Takahashi said.

Some trade experts said MITI would be able to maintain its power despite the changes.

"It's not a question of weaker or stronger, it's a question of changing roles," said Shinsaku Sogo, executive director of the semi-official Japan External Trade Organisation.

**Hopes**

Some MITI officials pin their hopes on a higher international profile.

"MITI sees a new role for itself in international economic management," said a senior ministry official. "Who else can take a comprehensive view and draw a comprehensive policy picture—no one else can. I see an even bigger role for MITI" he added.



LONDON  
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST
ABBEY LIFE	260.0
ADT LTD	113.4
ALD LYONS	363.0
AMSTRAD	166.0
ARGYLL GP	208.0
ASDA NFI	176.0
BAA PP	105.0
BTR	263.0
BAT INDS	453.0
BARCLAYS	510.0
BASS	853.0
BEAZER	187.0
BEECHAMS	483.0
BET ORD	253.4
BICC PLC	344.0
BLUE ARMY	110.0
BLUE CIRC	463.0
BOC GP	392.6
BOOTS CO	228.0
BPB INDS	306.0
BR COM	303.0
BR AIRWAY	175.0
BR AEROSP	382.0
BR GAS PP	36.75
B.P.	257.0
B.P.NEV	70.0
BR TELCOM	48.75
BRITOL	500.0
BUNZL	179.0
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## NEW YORK

COH	32/1	31/7
ERIC R	76/1	75/6
ATLANTIC	22/2	22/4
AETNA LIFE	47/5	47/6
ALIR	17/3	17/2
ALCAN	29/0	28/7
ALUM	24/2	24/3
AMTAMID	53/0	52/6
AM ELEC	28/4	28/4
AM PRO	80/6	80/4
AM PRO	79/5	79/7
AMERAD	73/2	73/3
STORES	56/0	55/7
TEL-T	28/4	28/3
CORP	73/6	73/3
AMP	51/6	51/5
PITT	14/6	14/6
AMR	43/2	43/2
GEN CO	34/6	34/6
HE	28/3	28/7
CP	12/6	12/7
PET	3/6	3/5
INC	11/6	11/4
INC	25/2	24/0
OIL	62/6	62/6
INT	40/2	40/4
DORP	24/1	24/0
INC	26/3	26/4
RDCS	23/5	23/4
ATLAN	69/7	69/7
CO	31/2	31/1
HOEL	0	62/4
STEEL	21/7	21/5
Y	7/5	7/4
BOSTON	24/7	24/6
TH-A	0	48/0
NY	29/4	29/4
RYCA	36/2	36/1
AMERICA	9/0	8/7
SPEC	7/0	7/0
CO	47/2	47/4
CASC	47/7	47/6
	56/6	56/2
RECON	34/2	34/3
STR	31/5	31/4
MYSTER	44/7	44/4
CLIP	20/4	20/2
CK	15/1	15/3
CO	14/3	14/2
CORP	33/3	33/3
ISIGHT	24/6	24/7
IND	21/3	21/2
OS	15/2	15/2
BOISE	21/6	21/5
TR	64/5	64/5
	25/7	26/0
	164/0	164/0
CP	42/7	43/2
DAT	2/3	2/3
INTL	37/1	37/0



# WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1988

## International Bond Highlights

Frankfurt—The European Investment Bank (EIB) is issuing a 400 mln mark, 10-year Eurobond with a 5 3/4 pct coupon priced at par, lead manager Deutsche Bank AG said. (RTZW 1450) in London. Ecu Eurobond due April 12, 1996, paying 7-1/2 pct and priced at 101-3/8 pct. (RTTK 1546)

Zurich—Oesterreichische Kontrollbank AG is issuing a 200 mln Swiss franc bond in two 100mln franc tranches, lead manager Swiss Bank Corp said. (RTTQ 1624)

London—Finnish Metal Processor Outokumpu OY is issuing a 50 mln Ecu, seven year Eurobond paying eight pct and priced at 100-7/8 pct, book runner and joint lead manager New Japan Securities Europe Ltd. (RTTL 1556)

London—Ford Credit Funding Plc is issuing a 50 mln atg Eurobond due April 14, 1993 paying 9-5/8 pct and priced at 101-1/2 pct, lead manager Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities) Ltd said. (RTXZ 1008)

Copenhagen—The World bank issued a 500 mln Danish crown, six-year domestic bond with a 10 pct coupon, priced at 100-3/4, lead manager Den Danske bank A/S said. (RTZZ 1526)

## Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 8-1/8 8	8-15/16 11/16	9-1/16 8-15/16
FT 3.30/40	3.40/45	3.40/45
PAR 7-9/16 5/8	7-3/8 1/2	7-1/2 5/8
ZUR 1/8 3/8	1-1/4 1-1/2	1-5/8 1-7/8
BRX 6-50	5-15/16 1/16	8-15/16 1/16
ROM 10-1/8 10-5/8	11-1/12	11-1/12
AMS 3-0/0 3-1/2	3-15/16 3-15/16	3-15/16 4-1/16
TOK 3.5000 5625	3.9375 4.0000	3.8125 8750
ECU 5.937 6.187	6.00 6.12	6.18 6.31

## Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KLD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	311/16	315/16
3 months	43/16	47/16
6 months	43/8	43/4
1 year	411/16	51/8

## BOMBAY

	PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	65	64.50	65 NICO	505	510	515
ACC	140	147	141	GNFC	31.50	31.50	31 MUKAND	78.50	79	80
ASIA PAINT	148.75	148.75	150	GRASIM	85.50	86	86.50 NCCIL	425.50	415	420.50
BAJAJ AUTO	415	417.50	417.50	GSFC	99	100	101 OKRAY	21.50	21.50	22
BAR. RAYON	160	160	157.50	KIND LEVER	65	67	67 PEICO	27	26.50	27
BOM.DYING	123.50	124	125	HINDALCO	121	121	120 PFIZER	70	69	76
BR. BOND	79	78	78	HINDOCOCA	80	77.50	80 PRE. AUTO	25	25	26
BSE INDEX	407.66		401.15	KINDMOTOR	18.25	18.25	18.25 RAYMOND	47.50	46.50	47
CENTURYSPG	735	735	768	IND ORG	17.50	17.75	17.50 RELIANCE	82	82	83
COLGATE	192.50	192.50	193.75	INDRAYON	49	49	49 SIEMENS	65	64	63
DEEPAKFERT	28.50	28	28	INDROL	166.25	170	167.50 SPIC	27.75	27.25	27
ET. HOTEL	40	40	40	ITC	31	31	32 STOKILLS	220	231.50	231.50
ESKAYEF	187.50	187.50	182.50	JKSYNTH	55	55	57 TATA PUR	188.50	185	190
ESSAR	17.50	17.25	17.50	L AND T	78	79.50	78.50 TATACHEM	63	62.50	63
GAR. POLY	78.50	77.50	78.50	MAHINDRA	55	54	55 TELCO	345	350	347.50
GE. SHIP	22.85	23	22.75	MASTERSHR	9.12	9	9.12 TISCO	593.75	602.50	611.25
				NATHER PL	96	96	97.50 VOLTA	250	250	252.50

## FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
AEG	227.0
ALLIANZ VR	1370.0
BADEMERK	179.1
BASF	239.8
BAYER	260.5
BAYER HYP	358.0
BAYER VER	351.0
BBC	306.5
BIF	333.0
BHW	517.0
CHIEF-VER	0
COMMERZB	229.0
COMIT GUM	233.6
DANER BEN	695.0
DEUTSC BNC	425.5
DRESDENER	318.5
OT BARCOCK	154.0
FAZ INDEX	456.50
GOLDSCHEID	238.0
GUTHOFF	0
HARPER	389.0
HOFERST AG	254.2
HOFESCH	106.5
HOFEN	181.0
HOFELD	422.0
KALZ HALD	143.0
KARSTADT	410.0
KAUHOFF	367.5
KLOECK H	96.0
KLOECK W	78.0
L'INDE	567.0
LUFTHANSA	149.0
MAN	151.8
MANHESMAN	119.0
MERCEDES	544.0
METALLGES	231.5
HOFERST PF	556.5
NORSK HYD	46.0
PHILIP KON	636.0
PORSCHE	471.0
PREUSSAG	125.0
PVA	195.5
RHEIN	204.5
RHEIN P	198.0
RHEINMETAL	260.0
SALAMANDER	262.2
SCHERING	461.0
SEL	316.0
STIEMES	378.5
THYSEN	123.4
VARIA	254.0
VEBA	257.0
VEW	262.4
VOLKSWAGEN	237.3

## HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
C H TUNNEL	14.10
CHUNG K	7.25
CHINA GAS	16.10
CHINA L-P	18.40
CHINA MOTR	18.80
COSMO PROP	4.30
EVERGO IND	.31
FAR EAST C	.71
GEN ORIENT	0
H C DEVELOP	8.60
H S INDEX	493.33
HANG LUNG	4.75
HANG SENG	30.50
HAM PAR BR	0
HK ELEC CO	7.85
HK KOWLOON	7.00
HK LAND CO	7.65
HK SHAN BK	7.30
HK SHAN HT	3.97
HK TELE CO	7.25
HUTCH WHAM	8.35
IND ECU PAC	8.25
JARDINE M	11.70
KORLOON M	11.20
NEW WORLD	8.80
PAUL Y CON	1.67
S H K CO	1.79
S H K PROP	1.95
SINE DARY	1.49
STELUX WFG	5.45
SWIRE PAC	16.80
T V B CO	13.60
TAT CHEUNG	3.30
UNION BANK	1.58
WOCK HAD	0
WOCK HAT	0
WORLD INTL	3.00

## TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
AJJIWOMOTO	3350
AKAI ELEC	538
AKAI	990
ASAHI GAS	1910
ASAHI OPT	589
BANK TOKYO	1510
BIDGESTON	1370
CANON	1120
CASIO COMP	1310
CHUGA1 MFG	1640
CITIZEN W	645
O-ICHI KAN	3180
DAI NIP TK	796
DAI NIP PT	2570
DAI NIP SC	980
DAI NIP TO	489
DAI NIP TO	810
DATMA H	1780
DALMA SEC	2630
EBRA. MFG	869
ELSAI	2510
FUJITSU	1500
FUJII BANK	3460
FUJII PHOTO	4250
FUJISAMA	2070
FUJITA CP	730
HITACHI	1340
HONDA MOT	1610
ISOTAN	1400
ITO YOKADO	4080
JAP SYN RU	1060
JAPAN AIR	15600
JAPAN MET	477
KAJIMA	1530
KANSAI EL	3010
KAO SOAP	1940
KAWASAKI H	340
KAWASAKI S	378
KIRIN BREW	2370
KOMATSU	630
KUBOTA LTD	682
KYOCERA	5540
MAKITA EL	1840
MARUI	3040
MATSUDA EI	2500
MATSUDA EL	2470
MEIJI SEIK	957
MITSUB CP	1230
MITSUB EL	652
MITSUB EST	2180
MITSUB HVT	658
MITSUBI CO	769
MITSUKOSHI	1550
MITSUMI EL	1270
NICHICOM	1340
NIHON CHMT	870
NITKO SEC	2020
NIP ELEC	2090
NIP KKKAN	378
NIP OIL	1220
NIP STEEL	436
NIP YUSEN	578
NIS MOTOR	895
NOMURA SEC	3880
ORICA CO	1000
OLYMPUS	1140
PENTA OCH	866
PIONEER	3270
RENOVA	842
RICOH	1260
SANKYO ELEC	2190
SANTO ELEC	539
SEITU ST	2500
SEKISUI PB	1910
SHARP	1010
SHISEIDO	1700
SONY	5250
SUNITONE	1100
TAISEI	940
TAISHO HRN	1200
TAKEDA CH	3230
TEIJUN	819
TOYO KEN IX	96.00
TOKIO MNR	2050
TOKYO ELEC	1180
TOKYO GAS	1180
TOKYO POMR	5870
TORAY IND	805
TOSHIBA EL	748
TOTO	2300
TOYO KKOBY	455
TOYOTA MOT	2400
YAMAHA	1170
YAMATCHI	2030
YAMAMOTO	4200
YAMAZAKI	1500

## Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE DOWN IN ACTIVE TRADE. TOKYO, MARCH 8, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED LOWER DUE TO CAUTION CONCERNING THE APPROACHING MARCH 31 FISCAL YEAR END FOR SPECIAL MONEY TRUSTS, OR TOKKIN, WHICH SPURRED PROFIT-TAKING ON RECENT GAINS, BROKERS SAID.

"TOKKIN HAVE BEEN SUPPORTIVE OF THE MARKET AND ARE GOING TO BE INACTIVE," SAID BROKER ROBERT KARR OF NEW JAPAN SECURITIES. "THE MARKET HAS REALLY COME UP, SO PEOPLE ARE THINKING TO SELL A BIT."

THE NIKKEI INDEX FELL 150.85 POINTS, OR 0.59 PCT, TO 25,465.73. IT SHED 10.99 POINTS ON MONDAY. FALLS LED RISES 1.8 TO ONE IN TURNOVER OF 800 MLN SHARES AGAINST 850 MLN.

SECURITIES HOUSE PHARMACEUTICAL, BANK, ELECTRONIC, REAL ESTATE, AIRLINE, COMMUNICATIONS, NON-FERROUS METAL, PRECISION INSTRUMENT, AUTO AND ROLLING STOCKS DECLINED.

RETAIL AND RAILWAY/BUS ISSUES ADVANCED, FOLLOWED BY SLIGHT GAINS IN MACHINERY, GAS AND SOME MANUFACTURING STOCK.

BROKERS SAID MOST TOKKIN WILL CLOSE THEIR BOOKS IN MID TO LATE MARCH, AND UNTIL THEN INVESTORS WILL BE SILENT.

"IT'S GOING TO BE A QUIET MARKET, MAYBE SOFTER, BUT BASICALLY FLAT," SAID DEPUTY BRANCH MANAGER TAKESHI MURAKAMI OF SCHROEDERS SECURITIES. "WE HAVE TO TAKE A REST."

LARGE CAPITALISATION STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRY ISSUES MADE UP MOST OF THE TOP 10 TRADED ISSUES IN THE MORNING, WHICH CONSTITUTED 58.8 PCT OF THE TOTAL 400 MLN SHARE MORNING TURNOVER.

STEEL SHARES, WHICH HAD GATHED LAST WEEK, FELL TODAY, WITH NIPPON STEEL LOSING FIVE YEN TO 436, KAWASAKI STEEL THREE TO 378 AND NISSAN STEEL THREE TO 760.

BROKERS SAID INTEREST WAS BEGINNING TO SHIFT TO SMALLER STEEL COMPANIES. TOKYO STEEL MANUFACTURING ROSE 100 TEN TO 3,520, AND GODO STEEL AND TOKYO TEKCO, BOTH ELECTRIC FURNACE STEELMAKERS, ADVANCED 39 TO 947 AND 40 TO 1,350 RESPECTIVELY.

## Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, MARCH 8, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED AT THE DAY'S HIGHS ON RENEWED BUYING INTEREST FROM BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS INVESTORS, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX ENDED THE DAY 22.93 POINTS HIGHER AT 2,493.33. THE BROADER-BASED HONG KONG INDEX ROSE 14.34 POINTS TO 1,633.78.

TURNOVER TOTALLED 938.80 MLN H.K. DLSR AGAINST 966.37 MLN ON MONDAY.

"BUYING INTERESTS FOCUSED ON BLUE CHIPS AGAIN AFTER A TREND TOWARD SECOND-LINERS LAST WEEK," A LOCAL BROKER SAID.

## AMMAN

AL HIMME MINERALS	OPNG	CLSG
AL-NISER EXCHANGE	0.79	0.79
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	0.89	0.90
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.		
ARAB BANK		
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER		
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.47	1.48
ARAB INSURANCE	1.00	0.92
ARAB INT. INV. TRAD.		
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.95	0.96
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53	0.58
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK		
ARAB PAPER CON/CTR		
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.		
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	0.76	0.75
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN		
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	30.00	30.00
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS		
DAR ALDAWA DV/INV.		
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.		
DEVELOP/INVEST/FAS.		
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INSURANCE	1.33	1.34
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.50	1.50
GENERAL MINING.	1.15	1.20
HOLY LAND INS.		
IND./MATCH JEMCO		
INDSTR. DEVLPT BHK	1.31	1.31
INDSTR./CONVM/AGR.		
INDUSTRIAL INVEST		
INTERMED/PETRO/CH		
INTERN. CON/INV	0.64	0.64
IRBIO ELECTRICITY	0.96	0.96
ISLAMPIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
J.P. PRESS FOUNDATION	3.50	3.20
JERUSALEM INS.		
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	13.50	13.55
JOR CEMENT FACT.		
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR		
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER		
JOR FINANCE HOUSE		
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY		
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.50
JOR INDUSTRY CHEN.		
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LIME AND BRICK		
JOR MANAG/CONSULT		
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.43	2.44
JOR PAPER CARD/BRDG		
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.40	2.39
JOR PIPES MANUFACT		
JOR PRESS/PUBLIS.	2.05	2.00
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	3.00	3.65
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.		
JOR SECURIT. CORP.	0.91	0.91
JOR TIMBER PROCES.	0.17	0.17
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY		
JOR WORSTED MILL	4.50	4.50
JOR. PETROLEUM REF		
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.80	5.60
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.		
JOR. KAU. CO. AGRE.	1.00	1.00
JORDAN BREWERY	3.65	3.65
JORDAN DAIRY		
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.20	1.20
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.93	0.95
JORDAN GULF REAL		
JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.90
JORDAN ISLAMIC BHK		
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.59	1.59
JORDAN TANNING	1.92	1.90
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY		
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.40
MIDDLE EAST INS.	60.00	60.00
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60	0.60
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO		
NAT/CABLE/WIRE/MF		
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.28	1.28
NATIONAL INDUSTRY		
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO		
NATIONAL STEEL		
NWLSHIPPING LINE		
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
PETRA BANK	2.02	2.00
PETRA ENTERPRISES		
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.50	0.50
PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.69	0.68
RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.80	0.80
REAL ESTATE INV.		
SPINNING WEAVING		
THE HOUSING BANK		
UNITED INSURANCE	2.50	2.50
UNIVERSAL CHEN. IND		
UNIVERSAL INS.		
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.85	0.85
YARMOUK INSURANCE		

## PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR				BC-A	70.00	70.00	75.00
STOCK	LT	BUY	SELL	LC-A	.44	.43	.44
AC-A	9.10	9.00	9.20	LC-B		.45	.47
ANSCOR	4.75	4.70	4.75	PX-A	.36	.36	.37
FER		2.40	2.55	PX-B	.38	.38	.39
GLO	31.00	31.00	31.50	OIL SECTOR			
PLDT	143.00	142.00	143.00	BP-A	.015	.015	.016
KPSI-A		1.30	1.70	BP-B	.016	.015	.017
SHC-A	123.00	123.00	124.00	LC-A		.0026	
SHC-B		133.00	139.00	LRC-B	.0028	.0028	.003
MINING SECTOR				OPW-A	.038	.038	.039
APX-A	.029	.029	.03	OPW-B	.039	.038	.039
APX-B	.03	.029	.031	OV-A	.033	.034	.035
AT-A	.20	.20	.20	OV-B	.036	.035	.036



## Egypt ready to cut back output

## Non-Opec producers told to discuss slide in prices

CAIRO, March 8. (Reuters): Egypt has called a meeting of experts from non-Opec oil producers for London tomorrow to discuss the new slide in world oil prices. Oil Minister Abdel Hadi Kandeel said today.

Kandeel told Reuters in an interview Egypt would be prepared to cut back its own output only if members and non-members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) acted jointly to curb production.

He warned that failure to address the slide could lead to a repetition of 1986 when oil prices fell below \$10 a barrel.

"We have invited non-Opec members to attend a very quick meeting at expert level... our purpose is to find a way to boost the oil market... and to stop the market sliding," Kandeel said.

One country invited, Norway, immediately said it would not take part in the London meeting, which Kandeel said would be held at the Mexican embassy.

"We have a policy of bilateral contacts with other oil producers and do not wish to be bound by group decisions," an oil and energy ministry spokesman in Oslo said.

The Norwegian stand meant the two biggest Western European producers would not attend the London talks.

**Participating**  
Kandeel said Britain, the largest, had not been invited, and London was chosen as a venue, rather than Cairo, as more convenient for most participants.

He said the meeting would include experts from Egypt, Mexico, the Soviet Union, China, Oman, Malaysia and



Abdel Hadi Kandeel  
Angola, none of which belong to Opec.

Kandeel did not rule out a meeting at a later date with mem-

bers of the 13-nation Opec and added: "We cannot let the market slide and watch."

World oil prices have slumped in the past two weeks and are now some \$4 a barrel below Opec's benchmark price of \$18 per barrel established in late 1986.

Ecuador reiterated overnight a call for an urgent meeting of Opec's oil pricing committee and a gathering of Opec ministers if necessary, but no decision has yet been taken.

## Reason

Kandeel said one reason for the slide in oil prices was the decision of some nations — which he would not name — to revert to a "netback" system of pricing.

Press reports have said Nigeria has been pricing crude on a netback basis, a system Opec phased out after it returned to a fixed

price system in December 1986. Under a netback contract, crude is sold on the basis of the value of refined products.

"If nations continue to go on with netback deals, then definitely the market will go down," Kandeel said. "When Opec stopped the netback deals (in late 1986) the market started to stabilise immediately."

## Production

He said Egypt had kept production to an average 870,000 barrels per day. Prime Suez blend and Ras Bahar prices were cut for the first half of March one dollar to \$14 a barrel.

Kandeel said the long-term future of the oil market required non-Opec and Opec producers to sit down at the same table, and add, failure to halt the slide could see prices retreat as low as in 1986 when Egypt's oil sold

briefly for \$7.

He said non-Opec nations meeting in London should reaffirm their support for output restraint if other producers "kept their word" and Opec nations respected their production quotas.

Kandeel said it was particularly important to re-establish stable world oil prices for a country like Egypt, which is highly dependent on foreign exchange.

He said: "I can't see any harm at all in cutting a little bit of production... I am not after a certain number of barrels, I am after a certain number of dollars to go to the treasury."

Kandeel said Britain was not invited because of its declared policy on oil. London has consistently rejected requests to curb North Sea output.

## NRI seminar to discuss investment prospects

NRI Investors Group Bahrain has announced that a joint seminar of the NRI Group Bahrain, Kuwait and UAE will be held in Bahrain.

Saudi Arabia, Doha and Oman NRIs will also take part. The response from the NRIs has been extremely encouraging. It has been organised to coincide with the Indian trade exhibition in Bahrain from March 26 to April 4.

NRI Investors Group Bahrain issued a press release today said the seminar would primarily focus on the investment prospects in India. This assumes relevance in view of the prevailing investment climate in the country and the current stock prices.

## Thrust

The government has been liberalising its policies and coming up with new instruments such as bonds for the NRIs bearing fixed interest rates. Such issues and the benefits to the NRIs would be highlighted.

There are several thrust areas which the government has earmarked for the current and the forthcoming five year plans and possibly the most important for the common man would be housing.

Massive investments would be required in this area and as there are a large number of NRIs in the Gulf who have been engaged in the construction business, their knowledge and experience would be of immense benefit to the country.

## Role

There have been a few successful industrial joint ventures under the NRI banner. And for such projects the NRIs would more than welcome the equity participation from the government. With the vast resources at the command of the NRIs, it should be easy to provide the necessary thrust in the high technology areas.

Banks would play a major role for the transfer of funds. It is imperative therefore that the banks advise NRIs about the benefits that may accrue to the NRIs.

Consequently, the seminar features relevant to the NRIs regarding RBI, FERA and income tax would be brought to the notice of the NRIs during the seminar.

C. Hari Kumar, joint controller of RBI, during his recent visit to the Gulf was reported to have said that the NRI funds from the Middle East account for nearly 70 per cent of the total remittances into India. As such it is abundantly clear that the NRIs from the Gulf have actively participated in various forms of investments in India.

According to a government spokesman, a 17 member NRI panel is being formed under the chairmanship of the commerce minister and there will be two members from the Gulf, one member from Kuwait and another from the UAE.

The proceedings will begin on the evening of March 30 and conclude around 3 pm on April 1.

**Officials**  
The seminar is to be actively participated by top Indian government officials, who will make suitable presentations on policy matters and other matters which are of interest to the NRIs.

Various financial institutions are also expected to take an active part in the proceedings. The NRIs in the various Gulf countries who are interested in participating in the seminar may kindly contact the representatives in their respective countries as given below:

Bahrain — Rajeev Sawhney, P.O. Box 20421, Manama, Bahrain. Tel: 532273, Fax: 96258N, Fax: 530376.

Kuwait — Rajan Nishewala, P.O. Box 25965, 13120 Safat, Kuwait. Tel: 5727394, Fax: 2424017.

Saudi Arabia — Khalid Rasool Khan, P.O. Box 3770, Jeddah 21434, NRI Tel: 6446588, Tel: 6862265, 6862249, 6720416 (R), Tel: 601863 KINDI SJ C/o Mr. Hassan.

U.A.E. — Mahendra Asher, P.O. Box 4421, Dubai, UAE, Tel: 227580, 228988, Tel: 49524 ASHER EM, Fax: 09714, 692796 C/o Bharat Kumar Shah.

## Dollar and gold ease

## Sterling makes new gains

LONDON, March 8. (Reuters): The pound rose sharply on currency markets today as relatively high British interest rates continued to attract money to sterling assets, dealers said.

In late afternoon the pound, at its best since late 1986, touched highs above \$1.84 and 3.07 West German marks after comments by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in parliament suggested to the market that its strength would not force an early interest rate cut.

## Risen

The pound's rally, by about seven pence since last week, had earlier been harked by speculation that the British might shave interest rates to stop its appreciating too far and raising prices of Britain's exports.

Dealers said some international holdings were enticed out of the dollar into sterling. The pound has risen from \$1.77 last week, while the dollar has

been easing in recent days against the mark. It touched 1.6645 marks today.

Several dealers said sterling's strength might not last long — "on the horizon there are quite a lot of black clouds looming," one said, citing a deteriorating British trade balance and weak North Sea oil prices.

## Strength

Recently, the Bank of England has sold pounds when sterling threatened to rise above three marks, worried that its appreciation would pinch British export earnings. But it now seems to have stopped intervening.

Thatcher told Labour Party opposition leader Neil Kinnock in parliament today: "The only way to deal with (sterling's strength) is either to have excessive intervention which would lead to inflation... or, in fact, to deal with the matter through interest rates, which would not be in the

interest of inflation at the present time."

The gold price was fixed in London this afternoon at \$436.35 an ounce, down 90 cents from last night.

North Sea oil prices eased slightly during the afternoon with crude from the Brent field quoted around \$14.05/10 a barrel for April loading after \$14.20/25 last night.

Wall Street stocks made modest gains in early New York business taking the Dow Jones industrial average up 18 points to 2,074.44.

## Anxiety

London stocks eased in a dull session marked by anxiety over the harm that sterling's strength might do to Britain's trade. The FTSE index of 100 blue chip British stocks in late trading was down 3.6 points at 1,814.6.

Earlier today, Tokyo's Nikkei stock index fell 150.85 points, or 0.59 per cent, to 25,465.73.

Brokers said prices fell due to caution over the approaching March 31 fiscal year end for special money trusts, or tokkin — local investment companies which funnel large amounts of cash into Japanese stocks.

## Supportive

"Tokkins have been supportive of the market and are going to be inactive," said broker Robert Karr of New Japan Securities. "The market has really come up, so people are thinking to sell a bit."

Some brokers said that, following Tokyo's stunning recovery in recent weeks to just below pre-black Monday levels, more subdued trading could be expected for a while.

"It's going to be a quiet market, maybe softer, but basically flat," said deputy branch manager Takeshi Murakami of Schroders Securities. "We have to take a rest."

## Producer debts put cocoa agreement in jeopardy

LONDON, March 8. (Reuters): A world cocoa pact to try to stop prices crashing in an oversupplied market might be in jeopardy unless Ivory Coast, the largest producer, paid its debts to the International Cocoa Organisation (Icoco), delegates at Icoco talks said today.

The organisation needs money to pay for a programme to withhold surplus cocoa from the market. Ivory Coast is the Icoco's highest debtor, owing \$33 to 34 million while Brazil, the second largest producer, owes about 10 million.

Brazil paid around seven million in arrears in January, but Ivory Coast paid nothing since the cocoa pact came into force in January 1987, huffer stock manager Juergen Flammstad said.

## Debtors

The spokesman of the cocoa producer nations, Moma Mohammed of Ghana, said he had appealed to the debtors to pay up because the life of the Icoco agreement was at stake.

Plambeck calculated that, unless there was money from Ivory Coast and Brazil, the Icoco could not afford to pay for new market support schemes. Its huffer stock is already full to the limit allowed under Icoco rules, 250,000 tonnes.

Earlier Ivory Coast said it would not pay its debt owed in Ivory payments on its cocoa exports unless prices rose.

But market prices have been sinking recently, reflecting cocoa trade expectations for a massive

surplus this season of between 120,000 to 150,000 tonnes. Cocoa futures in London fell today to \$952 (\$1,740) a tonne for May delivery, the lowest for 5-1/4 years.

The levy, used to finance Icoco market support efforts, is now \$30 a tonne. Consumer delegates said Ivory Coast sought a reduction of it yesterday but did not name a figure.

Cocoa producers want to operate the cocoa pact's withholding scheme, which can take 120,000 tonnes from the market. The scheme comes into force when the huffer stock is full, but consumers worried that it might not work due to lack of funds.

A senior Ivory Coast delegate said there did not need to be a problem with money for the scheme, as the Icoco did not have to start paying for it until nine months after it came into force, by which time some debts might have been settled, he said.

## Scheme

Rules for the scheme say producers have six months to withhold the cocoa and the Icoco starts paying for it after another three months, he said.

But consumers argued that Icoco rules say the money had to be available in advance because the cocoa pact could not incur debts of any kind.

Traders were saying today that, even if the withholding scheme was introduced, prices were likely to continue to slide because another surplus is expected in 1988-89.

## WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, March 8. (Reuters): Prices closed easier with subdued, directionless trading in most sectors. The All Ordinaries index fell 7.9 to 1,316.4.

TOKYO: Shares closed low due to caution on the approaching March 31 fiscal year-end which spurred profit-taking. The Nikkei index fell 150.85 to 25,465.73.

HONG KONG: Prices closed at the day's highs on renewed buying interest from local and overseas investors. The Hang Seng index rose 22.39 to 2,439.33.

SINGAPORE: Prices rebounded in the afternoon to close mixed in quiet and featureless trading. The Straits Times industrial index rose 1.85 to 917.59.

BOMBAY: Prices firmed in brisk turnover after exchange authorities lifted a ban on forward trading effective March 11.

FRANKFURT: Prices ended a quiet session lower and near their worst levels of the day in thin trading, undermined by the fall in the dollar and interest rate concerns.

ZURICH: Shares closed slightly lower in moderate turnover as the dollar continued to ease and Wall Street failed to give a clear trend.

PARIS: Shares closed with a majority of losses in a very sluggish session with thin volume. The 50-share Bourse indicator fell 0.70 per cent.

LONDON: Prices were dull with concern over the impact of firmer sterling on Britain's trade keeping investors cautious and selective. The FTSE-100 index at 1530 GMT was up 0.3 to 1,818.5.

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 7.3.88

ETA Ships Name Agent Tel. No.  
9/3 Rashidah Al Qutub 4747815  
10/3 Tilia Algh Barber 4842988

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT

B.No. Ships Name Agent Tel. No.  
2 Caly Mohd Bahar 2433881  
12 Barbara Morgan Al Bader 2433537

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT

ETA Ships Name Agent Tel. No.  
8/3 Sunderbans Al Majid 2421439  
8/3 Sunset Roger 2423642

9/3 Danakos Mohd Bahar 2433881  
11/3 Grace Liberty A Kamal 2425437  
11/3 Willine Orient Algh Barber 4842988

11/3 Materlink Al Rasheed 2422026  
12/3 Barzan UASC 4843150  
15/3 Kashima ISA 2441860

18/3 Qatari Ibn Alfujaa UASC 4843150  
20/3 Ville du Havre Al Rasheed 2422026  
20/3 Abu Basma Roger 2423642

20/3 New Oasis A S Marafe 4848665  
22/3 Al Mirqab UASC 4843150  
25/3 Al Ithaa "

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## SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 7.3.88

B.No. Ships Name Agent Tel. No.  
2 Saefer Algh Barber 4842988  
4 W. Jiang Mohd Bahar 2433881

7 Zarka Al Qutub 4747815  
8 Shaam ISA 2441860  
11 Kailash Al Qutub 4747815

12 Kara Koram Transcont 2436920  
15 Nikolay Shchukin Al Rasheed 2422026  
16 Coentro Everett ISA 2441860

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT

ETA Ships Name Agent Tel. No.  
9/3 Rashidah Al Qutub 4747815  
10/3 Tilia Algh Barber 4842988

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10.4.88  
Tender No. HMA/14-57/27  
Tender's Internal No. 710/88  
Concerned party: Ministry of Public Works

Requirements: Construction, completion & maintenance of garage for Ministry of Public Health vehicles in Industrial Area — Sabahan. Relevant fee: KD250  
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value  
Closing date: 12.00 noon, Tuesday, 19.4.88

Qualified Tenderers:  
1. Al Hamra Kuwait Co.  
2. Al Jashan Gen. Trdg. & Contg. Co.  
3. Munawer & Sons Gen. Trdg. Contg. Co.  
4. Al Khamis & Al Iryan Trdg. & Contg. Co.  
5. Al Ruwaisat Contg. Co.  
6. Al Abshir Group Contg. Co.  
7. Al Qatani Gen. Trdg. & Contg. Co.  
8. Al Bahrain Trdg. & Contg. Co. (Unarot)  
9. United Arab Contractors Co. (Unarot)  
10. Talal Al Ghanim & Partner Trdg. & Contg. Co.  
11. Al Fulaj United Group Gen. Trdg. & Contg. Co.  
Tender No. HMA/14-58/43  
Tender's Internal No. 709/88  
Concerned party: Ministry of Public Health

Requirements: Construction, completion & maintenance of Al Fajj Mosque. Relevant fee: KD250  
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value  
Closing date: 12.00 noon, Tuesday, 12.4.88  
Qualified Tenderers:  
1. United Construction Co. (Esso)  
2. Ali Al Sayegh Contg. Co.  
(To be continued)  
Provided by M.A. Mursi Umm Al Maradin International Est. P.O. Box 3654, Safat, Tel. 5337547/5337610.

## Stable markets vital for growth

## Arabs 'must develop nuclear power'

A SENIOR Arab oil official said yesterday the Arab world must develop its own nuclear power industry to meet increased energy demands in the next century.

Abdul Aziz Al Wattari, acting secretary general of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (Oapcec), told a news conference that despite huge Arab oil and gas reserves, other energy sources were needed.

"We will need electricity from other sources than oil and gas in the next century... nuclear power is the only known, sure way," he said.

## Power

Nuclear power will be one of the topics at the fourth Arab energy conference which opens in Baghdad on March 14, sponsored by Oapcec and other pan-Arab organisations.

Al Wattari said Arab demand for oil and oil products would surge to 6.8 million barrels per day (bpd) in the year 2000 from 3.6 million bpd last year.

Al Wattari emphasised the importance of energy for economic prosperity and industrial growth in both the producing and consuming countries.

The official stressed the need to balance energy supply and demand to ensure stable markets



Abdul Aziz Al Wattari answers questions at a press conference at the premises of the Secretariat in Kuwait about the convening of the 4th Arab energy conference.

and prices, and prevent damaging shocks with ruinous effects.

He accused Israel and the West of thwarting Arab nuclear power ambitions, citing Israel's bombing of an Iraqi reactor construction site outside Baghdad in

1981. Iraq has continued a nuclear energy programme with Soviet help but Egypt has postponed plans to build three reactors, apparently because of financing difficulties.

Al Wattari said Arab states should reorient their exports to cover the needs of brother states which had to import oil products. "Instead of turning outwards we must first fill the needs of the Arab world," he said.

## Algeria to sign gas deal with Britain

ALGIERS, March 8. (Reuters): The Algerian state energy concern Sonatrach will sign a three-year deal with British Gas Plc by the end of this month for sales of liquefied natural gas (LNG) on an option basis, the official APS news agency said.

The deal follows a visit to London by Algerian Oil Minister Belkacem Nabi in February when he met British Energy Secretary Cecil Parkinson.

## Deal

APS did not give further details of the accord but said the contract could open the way to big long-term deals in the order of several billion cubic metres of LNG.

Energy ministry sources recently told Reuters that under the three-year deal Britain would have an option on importing LNG cargoes of between 200 and 250 million cubic metres a year.

Algeria, which has been keen to improve trade links with Britain, has estimated British Gas needs over the next 15 years at between 12 and 14 billion cubic metres as North Sea deposits gradually run down.

Britain currently imports gas from Norway under a deal which runs out in 1992.

## Stable international oil industry attainable, says Opec chief

AMSTERDAM, March 8. (Opecna): Tools exist for the creation of a stable international oil industry and the prevention of further oil crises, Opec conference president Alhaji Riwanu Lukman declared today.

In a speech at the sixth European petroleum and gas conference read on his behalf by James Audu, head of the Public Information department of the Opec secretariat, the Opec president said such stability required the "responsible parties" coming together with the resolve to hurry their differences and take an in-depth look at the market.

## Performances

Such an effort would include "analysing past performances, the present situation and future scenarios, and reaching a consensus on a sound path to follow," the president added.

He said "the beginnings of a maturing attitude towards market responsibility" had been detected, in particular since the 1986 oil price collapse. "For the consequences of this crash hit hard in unexpected quarters."

He reiterated that a stable international oil industry was not only in the best interests of all producers and consumers and

the global economy as a whole, but also required a concerted effort by all parties to determine "sustainable, equitable pricing and production levels for oil on a global scale."

"We have been stating this boldly since the early 1980s," he pointed out, adding that it was not until the 1986 collapse that many producers "suddenly appeared to have understood what we have been talking about."

## Stability

When Opec once again took the initiative to restore relative stability to the market after the "devastation" of 1986, "the lessons were immediately, unfortunately forgotten. This sadly remains the situation today," the president said.

On the 1986 experience, the president recalled that oil prices fell further and faster than experts predicted with the international oil industry affected in terms of both hard fact and morale.

"Some oil wells, in particular many strippers in the US, closed for good. Investment plans were slashed, if not abandoned, and many alternative energy schemes became totally uneconomic."

while the collapse in the value of the US dollar and the 1987 stock market crash reinforced the feeling of uncertainty and insecurity.

The international banking system was also "severely jolted" and banks had to effectively write off or renegotiate repayments on debts.

The Opec president said the 1986 oil price collapse did not provide the "expected panacea" for the international economy. "Once the initial jubilation over lower fuel costs died down, the harsh realities of the traumas became apparent and, on balance, 1986 came to be viewed with the same apprehension as 1973-74 and 19





ABLE Seaman Danny 'Jonah' Jones of the British Royal Navy touches up HMS Apollo prior to departure on Monday to the port of Palm Beach, Florida. All hands enjoyed shore leave after four months at sea. (Reuter wirephoto)



US Navy Seaman, Chris Coleman of Youngstown, Ohio, wears an Arab-style head-dress to protect himself from the sun while on lookout duty on board the USS Simpson on Monday. The ship is escorting the re-flagged Kuwaiti oil tanker Gas Queen out of the Gulf. (Reuter wirephoto)



A BOMB disposal expert with a sniffer dog examines a rubbish bin along the route of the Ceremonial Guard Mounting in Gibraltar yesterday. Security was high following the killing of the IRA members on Sunday who had supposedly planted a bomb. There were no incidents. (Reuter wirephoto)



ANGRY customers confront the General Manager of the National Bank, Rafael Arosemena, (left), after the bank failed to open yesterday. Banks have been closed throughout Panama for the fourth day. (Reuter wirephoto)



KITTY DUKAKIS, the wife of Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis removes some lipstick left on his cheek by a supporter outside a rally at a senior citizens home in Miami Beach, Florida on Monday. (Reuter wirephoto)



ANTI-APARTHEID campaigners from the churches, education and sports launched a new front on Monday to fight the South African government crackdown on black dissent. Members include, from left to right, Frank van der Horst, non-racial sports body administrator; Allan Boesak, President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches; Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Professor Jakes Gerwel, prominent academician. (Reuter wirephoto)



SUPERSTAR Mick Jagger is flanked by kimono-clad girls while appearing at a press conference in Tokyo yesterday to promote a six-concert solo tour of Japan. Jagger was barred from Japan for more than a decade after reports of drug offenses by Rolling Stone band members. (Reuter wirephoto)



REPUBLICAN presidential candidate Bob Dole is surrounded by supporters at a rally at Alameda Plaza Hotel in Kansas City on Monday, the eve of Super Tuesday. (Reuter wirephoto)



FORMER prime minister and presidential candidate Raymond Barre feeds a lamb at the agriculture show in Paris yesterday. France's five million farmers form an important bloc of votes for the main candidates, all of whom took time to visit the show. (Reuter wirephoto)



ROBERT CURTIS, the President of the US-based International Metals, Inc., which is digging for treasure in Manila, tells a Philippine Senate committee on Tuesday that ousted ruler Ferdinand Marcos sent hitmen to kill him after he helped him to locate buried gold. (Reuter wirephoto)



FRENCH Prime Minister Jacques Chirac talks to journalists during a press conference on defence in a Paris hotel yesterday. Chirac, who is a candidate for the presidential elections, said he was not against the installation of neutron warheads on nuclear missiles, if a decision to deploy them on French soil was taken. (Reuter wirephoto)



A HEAVILY damaged West German submarine S-176 limps along toward Bergen harbour on Sunday, after colliding with the Norwegian oil rig Oseberg-B. No one was injured in the incident, but 200 workers were evacuated from the platform. (Reuter wirephoto)















## 14-year-old Yugoslav surprises Kelesi

**Kelesi**  
BOCA RATON, Florida, March 8, (UPI)—Monica Seles of Yugoslavia, a 14-year-old playing her first professional tournament, yesterday downed Helen Kelesi of Canada, 7-6 (7-3), 6-3, to reach the second round of the \$300,000 Virginia Slims of Florida.

Seles, who wears braces, used devastating two-hand forehands and backhands to overcome Kelesi, ranked 31st in the world, and a 90-minute rain interruption. Seles was to face No. 2 seed Chris Evert, 33, this evening at the polo club of Boca Raton, Florida, in a second-round match.

"I was nervous before the match and didn't get comfortable until the second set," Seles said in the perfect English she learned while at Nick Bollettieri's Tennis Academy in Bradenton, Florida, for three years. "When I won, I was very happy. I'm satisfied. I won my first match. Now (against Evert), I will go out and play my best."

**Disguised**  
Seles, who began winning international 12-year-old division tournaments when she was 9 and won the Orange Bowl 14 title as a 12-year-old, challenged Kelesi from the start. Playing as an amateur, she attacked constantly from the base line of the hard-court surface, using well disguised drop shots to tantalize the Canadian.

An inconsistent second service — she committed five double faults — caused Seles problems. There were four service breaks in the first set. Seles lost a chance to end the set when Kelesi rallied from 0-40 to bold service in the eighth game.

Rain halted play in the 12th game of the opening set with Kelesi ahead 30-0. When play resumed, Seles rushed to a 5-1 lead in the tie-breaker and went ahead 3-1 with two service breaks in the second set.

They duelled impressively, breaking each other's service in the last seven games of the match. "I know I play Chris Evert next," Seles said. "I saw her and Steffi Graf (the top seed West German, and defending champion) watching my match. I never saw them up close like that before. I remember — the first time I heard about Chris Evert, I was 8 years old."

Seles, an eighth-grade student, said she will play "only two more tournaments this year — Lipton (starting next week) and maybe another in July, after school."

**Scheduled**  
With Graf, Evert, No. 3 seed Pam Shriver and No. 4 Gabriela Sabatini not scheduled for matches until this evening, No. 9 Nathalie Tauziat of France led the seeds by beating Marianne Werdel of Bakersfield, Calif., 6-4, 6-2.

Three seeded players were upset in first round play yesterday including 10th seed Catarina Lindqvist. The Swede, ranked 21 in the world, was shocked by the 19th-ranked Linda Ferrando of Italy 6-4, 6-3.

American Peanut Louie Harper crushed 13th seed Anne Minier of Australia 6-2, 6-0 and Bettina Fulco of Argentina outlasted 14-seeded American Stephanie Rehe 6-4, 5-7, 6-4 in a three-hour three minute struggle.

## Portugal omit Mota from squad

LISBON, March 8, (Reuters)—World marathon champion Rosa Mota, who is locked in a dispute with the Portuguese Athletics Federation, was excluded yesterday from the team for the World Cross-country Championships in Auckland later this month.

Aurora Cunha, three times women's world 15-km road race champion, is out of form and will also miss the New Zealand event, said federation officials.

But Portugal's cross-country star Fernando Mamede, the men's world record holder over 10,000 metres, has been included.

The federation began disciplinary procedures against Mota when she declined to compete in an event in Monaco just after winning a gold medal in the women's marathon at the World Championships in Rome last year.

The federation said she could not be considered for Auckland because she is not a registered member of any club. Mota has refused to register in protest against the federation's decision.

The women chosen to represent Portugal on March 26 are: Albertina Machado, Conceicao Ferreira, Rosa Oliveira, Albertina Dias, Monica Gama, and Ana Paula Oliveira.

Men's squad: Domingos Castro, Dionisio Castro, Joaquim Pinheiro, Elisio Rios, Fernando Mamede, Antonio Pinto, Jose Regalo, Ezequiel Canario and Henrique Crisostomo.

## KRISHNAN OUTLASTS YZAGA

# Gomez survives first round scare



Krishnan beat Yzaga in first round

ORLANDO, Fla., March 8, (Reuters)—Andre Gomez of Ecuador barely escaped becoming the first big upset victim yesterday when he fought off two match points and went on to beat Eduardo Bengoechea of Argentina 1-6 7-6 6-2 at the \$415,000 Orlando Classic Tennis tournament.

Sweden's Peter Lundgren, 1987's newcomer of the year, suffered his fourth consecutive first round loss when Czechoslovak Marian Vajda beat him 6-4 6-4 and American Aaron Krickstein scored a minor upset when he used his powerful forehand to eliminate Lundgren's compatriot and doubles partner Mikael Pernfors 6-2 6-4.

**Deserted**  
After easily taking the first set from Gomez, whose serve appeared to have deserted him, Bengoechea looked on his way to sure victory when he took a 2-0 in the second set.

The fifth-seeded Gomez's service return came through where his delivery faltered, however, and broke the Argentine to level the set.

In the 12th game of the second

set, the Gomez double-faulted on two consecutive points and gave Bengoechea double match point.

But Gomez remained calm as he rallied back from the brink of elimination to force the tiebreaker which he won 7-3.

In the third set, Gomez took complete control as the Argentine was unable to find his rhythm after the disappointment of missing his golden opportunity.

"I have lost so many matches in my nine years on the tour that it really didn't matter," said Gomez explaining his composure. "I just go out and play and not worry about it."

In other first-round matches, Ramesh Krishnan of India defeated Jaime Yzaga of Peru, 6-1, 4-6, 6-2, Czechoslovakia's Marian Vajda edged Sweden's Peter Lundgren, 6-4, 6-4, Andre Chesnokov of the Soviet Union helped him to a 6-3, 6-1, Luis Mattar of Brazil upended Argentina's Guillermo Perez-Roldan, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 and No. 6 Martin Jaite of Argentina defeated Yugoslavia's

Slobodan Zivojinovic, 6-2 7-6 (7-5).

Krickstein, 20, kept Pernfors pinned to the baseline for much of the match. He took the first three games, coming back from 0-30 to break Pernfors' service in the second game. Pernfors managed to score a break of his own in the fifth game to move within 2-3, but Krickstein broke back to grab a 4-2 lead. Krickstein then took the next two games, dropping only one point.

Krickstein served for the match at 5-3 in the second set, but after falling behind 15-30, a pair of double-faults cost him the game.

**Blew**

"He played a couple of good points early in the game and I got a little rattled and threw in a couple of dubbles," Krickstein said of his serving trouble. "That can happen if you're not match tough, and don't have the confidence to close out a match."

Pernfors, a finalist in the 1986 French Open, then dropped the next game. At 30-30, he hit a forehand long and then blew an overhead smash to give Krickstein the match.

## Real tennis gets new lease of life

HAMPTON COURT, England, March 8, (Reuters)—In a quiet corner of an ancient English palace, a group of enthusiasts are keeping alive a royal pastime dating back over 600 years.

A range of people, from businessmen to housewives, come to Henry VIII's riverside palace of Hampton Court to re-create a bit of history on one of the English king's favourite spots — the real tennis court.

**Celebrated**  
Real tennis, sometimes called royal tennis, is an old but little-known indoor racket game, which in its heyday was the favourite sport of kings and noblemen, celebrated in the literature of both France and Britain.

As such the game earned a place in history — it is said Henry was on court when news reached him of the beheading of his second wife, Anne Boleyn.

The game also proved a fatal obsession for a number of royals and nobles, including Louis X of France, who died of a chill after a match.

Known simply as tennis until its offshoot, lawn tennis, took over as the world's leading racket game, real tennis has over the years been reduced to an obscure sport played by a dedicated few.

But fans of this early sport of kings deny any suggestion that it

is a mere historical relic. Not only is it greatly superior to the grass court variety, they say, it is also making a comeback.

Chris Ronaldson, professional real tennis coach at Hampton Court, says that demand for court time is now outstripping supply. "There are 19 courts in the United Kingdom and they are all full," he said.

World champion from 1981 until losing his title last year, Ronaldson has travelled the world promoting the game and attracting much-needed sponsorship.

Real tennis has become a family affair — Ronaldson's brother is also a professional coach and his eldest son, British under-12 champion for three years running and currently under-14 title holder, looks set to rise to the top.

His wife Lesley is also a world champion. She holds the world doubles title and is an ardent promoter of the women's game.

"It's not a job, it's a way of life," she said of her husband's career, which involves coaching, looking after the court, acting as marker or scorekeeper for players, and restringing rackets.

The game, Ronaldson says, has an intellectual appeal. "It's a cross between lawn tennis, squash and chess — you have to think ahead, it's not just speed

and stamina."

He puts the number of players worldwide at over 2,000, but says the growth of the sport is being hampered by a shortage of facilities.

"The newest court in Britain was built over 70 years ago," said Ronaldson. "Just to build a squash court can cost up to 20,000 pounds (\$35,000). A real tennis court would cost 10 times that."

The price is high because of the unique design of a real tennis court, similar in size to a grass court and divided in the middle by a net, but with a stone floor, black walls and intricate floor markings.

One striking feature is the narrow pavilion-like structure running along three walls, reminiscent of the monastery cloisters where French clergy first played in the 13th century.

With a number of surfaces on which to deflect or roll the ball, players need to develop a skill which Ronaldson calls "spatial awareness" — to be able to plan strategies or get in position to receive the opponent's shots.

Then there is the added difficulty of playing a heavy ball with a low bounce off a racket head which is smaller than the conventional one.

After mastering the art of strokeplay, aspiring real tennis

players must apply themselves to the notoriously difficult task of learning the rules.

"I don't want to be discouraging," said Ronaldson, "but you have to be pretty dedicated to get that far."

The way points are won and lost and the scoring system are both similar to lawn tennis, but built into the game are other more complicated ways of out-playing your partner.

They include challenging an opponent to beat a "chase," and scoring a point outright by hitting a ball straight into one of three designated areas.

Ronaldson hopes eventually to bring the sport to a wider audience by building a show-court, able to seat hundreds of spectators.

**Tradition**

Real tennis players can carry on long after other sportsmen have retired. One club player is 73.

Prince Edward, the queen's youngest son, carried on the royal tradition by playing real tennis as a student at Cambridge, but his sporting ancestry did not help him win any titles.

Used to be easier for the blue-bloods. Charles X of France became the country's junior champion when he was just two years old, by virtue of the royal prerogative.

## Welsh suffer another rebuff

LONDON, March 8, (Reuters)—The Welsh Football Association (FA) have suffered another rebuff in their bid to recruit a national team manager to replace Mike England who was sacked last month.

English First Division club Tottenham said yesterday that they would not allow the Welsh FA permission to approach their manager Terry Venables.

Tottenham chairman Irving Scholar said: "Both Terry and I feel at the moment it would not be in the best interests of Tottenham if he was to accept the job."

Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough was the Welsh FA's first choice to replace England, but the club's board of directors refused to allow him to take on the part-time job.

## Penny aims to forget 1987 row

LONDON, March 8, (Reuters)—Christopher Penny, the American at the centre of last year's university boat race "mutiny," wants to forget that rumour and concentrate on trying to inspire an Oxford triumph in the 1988 event.

Penny was one of four Americans in withdrawal for the Oxford University crew in a dispute over team selection for the traditional race against Cambridge University here on the River Thames.

But his actions were vindicated when he was subsequently elected Oxford Boat Club president by a massive majority, and yesterday he launched his bid to win the 134th race on April 2 by selecting six of last year's victorious crew.

"When I was elected president, I didn't think in terms of triumphs, but the beginning of training for this year's boat race," said Penny. "I already knew how the guys in the team felt and I just wanted to do it better this year."

Penny, a silver medalist at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, is one of two Americans in this year's Oxford eight-man crew, along with stroke (key oarsman) Michael Gaffney.

**Compared**

Cambridge president Jim Garmann announced a younger, less experienced all-British crew, who, with the exception of stroke Guy Pooley, are all undergraduates.

Their average age is 21, compared with 23 for Oxford, who have five postgraduates in their boat. But despite Oxford's age and weight advantage, Cambridge coach Alan Innes is confident his crew can avenge last year's defeat.

"It suits us to be the underdogs. Last year after the Americans pulled out we immediately became the favourites and that was a bit of the shock in the system," he said.

"The race will be won by the crew who keeps the cooler head and has the clearest tactics," he added.

The Americans dropped out last year when Oxford president Donald MacDonnell selected himself for the crew in preference to their compatriot Chris Clark.

## Frost resigned to remain king without a crown

MORTSEL, Belgium, March 8, (Reuters)—At the age of 29, Dane Morten Frost, a king in the world of badminton, has virtually given up hope of ever winning the world title.

Next year's championships will be a disaster, he says.

After losing in the final of the last two World Championships which are held every two years, Frost is convinced that heat and age will rob him of his last chance to seize the crown that has eluded him in the past.

**Prominence**

Frost has headed the Grand Prix standings since 1983, has twice been European Champion, has won the All England trophy four times and is a multiple winner of the Danish Open.

"But I will never be world champion," Frost told Reuters after adding the Belgian Open in February to the long list of tournaments he has won since he shot to prominence in 1979.

"Sure I will take part in next year's (World) Championships in Indonesia, but it will be a disaster."

"For me that's the worst place to be. I just can't stand the heat and the humidity. I immediately lose up to 60 per cent of my fitness," said Frost, who is dubbed "The Iceman" for his cool demeanour on court.

"Last year I spent three months in Malaysia but after a few weeks I was simply drained, so tired and completely out of shape. When I came back in October I played a couple of tournaments but then I was completely finished," he said.

"Then I got a virus and a leg injury, now I'm finally back on the right track."

The next world championships could be Frost's last. Asked if he would compete in 1991, Frost said: "I don't think so, I'll be 33 then and even I have my limits."

Frost took up badminton when he was eight and spent nearly every spare minute on a court. But as a child, doctors told him to avoid physical pressure because he suffered from asthma.

"It was very serious," he said. "But I refused to comply with the doctors' advice and it has paid off."

Now, after nearly a decade of top flight badminton, he is contemplating the end of his career.

"I will go on for at least two and a half years," he said. "I've just negotiated contracts for that period. If I can remain in the top four I will carry on after that, but if I am ranked number 15 or 20, I'll stop."

Frost said there was no secret to his success — "just hard work," training six days a week.

## Foster and Campbell clash again in England-US match

LONDON, March 8, (Reuters)—World high hurdles gold medalist Greg Foster and last year's Grand Prix champion Tinnie Campbell stage another of their spectacular confrontations when the British indoor athletics season comes to a climax with the annual England-United States match on Saturday.

Foster retained his world title in Rome last year in the absence of fellow-American Campbell who failed to qualify in the US trials.

But Campbell turned the tables in the Grand Prix final in



Frost gives up hope

all year.

"But I believe in efficiency," he added. "I don't train more than four hours a day, but normally just two hours, it depends on my mood."

Efficiency for Frost means saving himself for top competitions. "I play at 90 per cent all year long, but I try to be 100 per cent for top events," he said.

Frost sees his solid defence as his main weapon. "I think I will be remembered as an overall player who was a bit on the defensive side," he said.

He moved from Denmark to London in October 1985, partly for tax reasons but also to get away from his fans.

"In Denmark people recognise me all the time, but I'm certainly not a hero because I'm not spectacular," he said. "I'm too much down to earth... they think I'm serious and professional."

"But I was badminton's bad boy when I was 16, 17 and 18 years old, but after a few really bad episodes, I promised never to get furious again," he said. "Since then, there have been only very few occasions when I got really angry."

Frost regretted that badminton, although fast becoming a multi-million dollar business, had not yet fully taken off in the United States.

**Studied**

But he said the American attitude was changing now that badminton would be an Olympic sport from 1992.

History, which he studied for four years in Copenhagen, is Frost's main hobby. He is also a keen reader and chess player, and he likes going to London theatres and watching sport.

When his playing days are over he hopes to work for the International Badminton Federation and continue to travel.

"With some of the money I have saved I can now travel around the world with Ullahrit, my wife," he said. "She makes travelling so much easier."

## Irish drop two for final game

DUBLIN, March 8, (Reuters)—Ireland dropped full back Philip Danaher and forward Mike Gibson today and called up new cap Mick Maylett for the Five Nations Rugby Union international against England at Twickenham on March 19.

After defeats by Wales and France, the Irish, like the English, have little but pride to play for.

**Switching**  
Maylett joins Ireland skipper Donal Lenihan in the second row with Willie Anderson switching to Gibson's position in the back row.

Hugo McNeill is restored to the team at full back, swapping places with Danaher after sitting on the bench for the first three championship games.

The Five Nations title is being

decided in Cardiff on the same day between Wales and France.

Ireland team — Hugo McNeill; Trevor Ringland, Brendan Mullin, Michael Kieran, Keith Crossan; Paul Dean, Michael Bradley; Willie Anderson, Denis McBride, Mick Maylett; Donal Lenihan (captain), Phil Matthews, Tom Clancy, Gerry Kingston, Des Fitzgerald.

Meanwhile Scotland flanker John Jeffrey was punished today for his part in the Calcutta Cup affair when the Rugby Union trophy was used as a ball in an imprudent street game staged by Scottish and English players.

The 11-year-old Cup, made of melted silver rupees and insured for £10,000 (\$18,000), disappeared from an Edinburgh hotel a few hours after England's

9-6 win on Saturday. It was denied when it was returned two hours later.

Jeffrey, who was on the substitutes' bench for the Five Nations international at Murrayfield, has been overlooked by the Scottish selectors for Australia's bicentenary seven-a-side tournament in Sydney in April.

Rhian Charters, chairman of the Scotland selectors, said: "He was the only player from our side that I knew of being involved in the Calcutta Cup affair. That is the selectors' punishment for him — not being selected."

Top rugby officials from both countries are currently holding investigations into the street game involving the trophy and statements will be issued when these are complete.

## Joyner-Kersee and Drechsler end indoor season in contrasting styles

BUDAPEST, March 8, (UPI)—American Jackie Joyner-Kersee and East German Heike Drechsler, destined to duel for the Olympic long jump gold medal in Seoul in September, could not have ended their indoor seasons in more contrasting styles.

Joyner-Kersee's farewell was a sorry one, lying face down on the track at Madison Square Garden after falling in the final of the 55-metres hurdles at the US Indoor Championships 10 days ago.

Drechsler's indoor season ended on the victory rostrum in the Spitzsarnok indoor arena after winning the European indoor long jump title for the third straight year with a leap of 7.30 metres — the third best jump of all time indoors.

**Culminates**  
Drechsler spoke afterwards of her self-confidence as the start of the long outdoor season which culminates in the Olympics beckons.

Joyner-Kersee had an altogether different perspective last weekend. "I thought 'Jackie, what are you doing down here?'" she said after the fall in the race won by Julie Rocheleau of Canada.

And while the start of the Olympic Games is still seven months away, every psychological point that can be scored now is a vital one. Drechsler is the woman who needs every boost she can get before the



Joyner-Kersee: fell in her final race

serious competition begins.

Last year belonged to Joyner-Kersee, 26 years old last week and holder of the heptathlon world record and co-holder, with Drechsler, of the women's long jump record of 7.45 metres.

In 1987 she not only equalled Drechsler's long jump world record but she won golds at the World Championships in the heptathlon and long jump.

Drechsler's only defeat in seven long jump competitions

last year came in the World Championships when she had to be content with the bronze medal behind Joyner-Kersee after injuring a knee before the final. The real showdown between them never materialised and was put on hold until Seoul.

Now Drechsler is looking forward to renewing their rivalry. She has been fairly pleased, but not ecstatic, with her from this winter, and seasoned observers believe she is getting back to the



Drechsler: finished on the victory rostrum

standard she set in 1986 when she won the European 200 metres and long jump titles, set the world long jump record and equalled the 200 metres world record of 21.71 seconds.

When she won the world long

jump title in Helsinki in 1983 she was, at 18, the youngest gold medalist in the championship. Now 23 and sounding like the mature athlete she is, she said she was looking forward to the summer ahead.

"I know it is going to be a tough year and that the American girls are going to be the ones to beat in whatever I do, but I am ready for the competition."

"I am going to concentrate on the long jump. That is my ultimate aim this year and I know that Jackie will be my main rival."

"I feel good after an encouraging winter. I feel I can do better, but at least I feel fit again. I feel very confident about the coming season, although I am not sure whether I will be sprinting in the Olympics yet. It is not a foregone conclusion that I will be, but I will definitely be doing jumping if I am fit and healthy, and that is my main aim."

**Preparing**

Joyner-Kersee's indoor season, apart from that final, ignominious fall, also showed that she was preparing well for the summer. She set an American long jump record of 23 feet 0 1/2 inch and, together with coach and husband Bobby Kersee, was carefully planning her pre-Olympic strategy.

She is likely to compete in a heptathlon at Goetsis, Austria, in mid-June and appear at several of the big European meets.

It is unlikely the two will come face-to-face before they meet in the Olympic stadium in Seoul at the end of September, but when they do, they should provide one of the Olympic's most memorable battles.

**Both**

Britain's two gold medalists at last weekend's European Indoor Championships in Budapest will both take part.

Lindsay Christie, the 60 metres champion, runs over the same distance against American Olympic 200 metres bronze medalist Thomas Jefferson, and David Sharpe, who won the 800 metres gold in Budapest, runs in the 1,000 metres.

The American team also includes sprinter Emmitt King, a member of the world 4x100 metres gold medal team.

## Zambia to send reduced squad

LUSAKA, March 8, (Reuters)—Z



## SPORTS

## PAKISTANI FIELDERS DROP CATCHES

## President's XI struggle for runs

KINGSTON, Jamaica, March 8, (Reuters): Pakistan's bowlers made the West Indies Cricket Board's President's XI struggle for runs on the second day of their four day match at Kingston's Sabina Park yesterday.

Pakistan declared at 332 for nine and the President's XI had reached 208 for four when bad light ended play 16 minutes early. Carl Hooper top-scored with 67 in 115 minutes but looked badly out of form in his initial class innings of the season.

Hooper was dropped three times and had several other near misses but showed glimpses of brilliance with shots such as a memorable six over extra cover off spinner Tauseef Ahmed.

## Remained

At the other end Keith Arthurton, his third wicket partner in a stand of 94, remained virtually strokeless, 25 not out in two and a half hours.

The innings was given a rousing start by openers Phil Simmons and Wayne Lewis who put together 79 in just over an hour. Simmons was first out for 39 when he was bowled by a low delivery from all-rounder Naveed Anjum.

Anjum came close to another success when Carlisle Best was dropped at cover when on one. Best lifted an on-drive to Javed Miandad at square leg off Salim Jaffer when the score was 100. Jaffer also dismissed Lewis who was caught in the gully for a fine 47.

After resuming at 279 for seven, Pakistan added 53 runs before declaring, 48 of which came from Naveed. Winston Benjamin took the first of the



Marshall: included in W. Indies squad

two wickets to fall when Tauseef Ahmed touched a lifting delivery and was caught behind.

Naveed dealt with the bowling successfully in a ninth wicket stand of 37 with Salim Jaffer until he hit a return catch to off-spinner Carl Hooper, who finished with four for 72. Pakistan declared on his dismissal, opting not to recall opener Mudassar Nazar, who retired hurt on Sunday after a blow on the helmet.

**Scoreboard**  
Pakistan first innings (over-  
night 279 for seven)  
Mudassar Nazar retired hurt ..... 1  
Rameez Raja c Williams b Harper 25

Salim Malik c and b Harper ..... 86  
Javed Miandad c Best b Hooper ..... 63  
Azam Malik c Hooper b Hooper ..... 42  
Ejaz Ahmed c Hooper b Benjamin 29  
Imran Khan c Simmons b Hooper ..... 4  
Salim Yousaf b Hooper ..... 8  
Naveed Anjum c and b Hooper ..... 48  
Tauseef Ahmed c Williams b Benjamin ..... 2  
Salim Jaffer not out ..... 3  
Extras (b-6 lb-4 w-3 nb-8) ..... 21  
Total (nine wks dec) ..... 332  
Fall of wickets: 1-47 2-179 3-216 4-249 5-253 6-279 7-279 8-295 9-332.  
Bowling: Gray 16-1-53-0, Bishop 17-3-68-1 (nb8), Harper 24-7-61-2, Benjamin 22-4-68-2 (w3), Hooper 24-2-57-4.

**PRESIDENT'S XI first innings**  
P. Simmons b Naveed ..... 39  
W. Lewis c Amir Malik b Jaffer 47  
C. Best c Miandad b Jaffer ..... 13  
K. Arthurton not out ..... 25  
C. Hooper lbw b Naveed ..... 67  
A. Gray not out ..... 0  
Extras (b-1 lb-9 nb-7) ..... 17  
Total (four wickets) ..... 208  
Fall of wickets: 1-74 2-100 3-114 4-208

To bat: T. Payne, R. Harper (captain), D. Williams, W. Benjamin, L. Bishop.

Bowling to date: Imran 13-1-49-0 (nb1), Jaffer 10-0-37-2, Naveed 14-1-50-2 (nb4), Tauseef 13-2-53-0, Salim Malik 4-0-28-0 (nb1).

It was announced yesterday that leg-spinner Abdul Qadir's late arrival in the Caribbean to join the Pakistan team has been further delayed.

Qadir remained in London to have treatment for back trouble while the touring side arrived here last Thursday, but he failed to make his expected appearance on Saturday.

Pakistan manager Intikhab Alam said yesterday: "He (Qadir) has stayed back for various tests. He will be coming in a few days time."

Qadir also made a delayed arrival in England for last season's Pakistan tour. He had remained at home because his wife was ill, and he eventually joined the team just before the second Test.

Meanwhile West Indies have recalled Malcolm Marshall and included newcomer Curtley Ambrose in their squad for the first two one-day internationals against Pakistan.

The two pacemen were among a party of 13 named by the West

Indian selectors yesterday.

The return of Marshall, who took a break from international cricket and missed the 1987 World Cup and the subsequent tour of India, was expected.

Ambrose, a 24-year-old Antiguan, had an outstanding first full West Indian season just ended by taking a domestic record 35 wickets.

The first of the five one-day games is in Jamaica on Saturday and the second in Antigua on March 15.

West Indies squad: Viv Richards (captain), Gordon Greenidge, Desmond Haynes, Phil Simmons, Richie Richardson, Gus Logie, Carl Hooper, Jeff Dujon, Malcolm Marshall, Courtney Walsh, Patrick Patterson, Curtley Ambrose, Winston Benjamin.

The selectors also named 10 players for the West Indies Board XI to face the Pakistanis in Guyana from March 24-27. The 11th player will be named at a later date, board secretary Steve Camacho said.

The 10 are: Roger Harper (captain), Phil Simmons, Sudesh Dhaniram, Clayton Lambert, Keith Arthurton, Rahindranath Seeram, Robert Haynes, David Williams, Ian Bishop, Desmond Collymore.

## LATE NEWS

Captain Imran Khan, looked short of work on Monday, but worked up some real pace to take two wickets for 15 runs in seven overs as the President's XI reached 289 for eight at lunch in reply to Pakistan's 332 for nine declared in their first innings.



## Dilley unfit for opening one-day cricket match

WELLINGTON, March 8, (Reuters): England fast bowler Graham Dilley will miss the first of the four one-day cricket internationals against New Zealand in Dunedin tomorrow.

He has still not recovered from the knee injury he suffered on the first day of the drawn third Test here.

## Chances

England manager Micky Stewart said today: "Graham's chances of playing in the second one-day on Saturday are no better than 50-50."

New Zealand also have fitness problems, with bowlers Ewen Chatfield and John Bracewell

confined to the team's hotel with influenza. An early morning examination by a local doctor tomorrow will determine whether they play.

Teams from New Zealand — John Wright (captain), Richard Reid, Andrew Jones, Martin Crowe, Mark Greatbatch, Ken Rutherford, John Bracewell, Chris Kuggeleijn, Ian Smith, Martin Snedden, Willie Watson, Ewen Chatfield.

England — Mike Gatting (captain), Martyn Moxon, Chris Broad, Tim Robinson, Neil Fairbrother, David Capel, John Emburey, Eddie Hemmings, Bruce French, Phillip DeFreitas, Paul Jarvis, Neil Radford.

## QMCC rout Salmiya for Pak Sarhad final

QUAID-E-MILLAT Cricket Club (QMCC) scored a 66-run victory over Salmiya Star Cricket Club in the semifinal of the Pak Sarhad Trophy at the Airport-Millat ground on Friday.

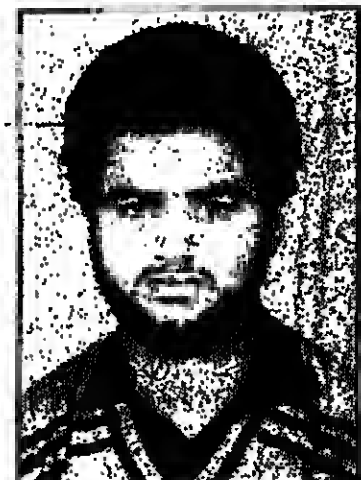
Batting first, QMCC score 198 for the loss of seven wickets in their 25 allotted overs. The QMCC innings was built around some fine performance from Sohail, Jamil and Munir.

## Unbeaten

Jamil was the top scorer with 42, hitting a six and six fours. Sohail was also in a punishing mood, slamming six fours on his way to a quick 39. Munir, in good batting form this season, remained unbeaten on 32. Hameed with an unbeaten 17 was the other batsman to do well.

Salmiya, requiring almost eight runs per over for victory, kept losing their wickets at regular intervals and never seemed to be in the chase for runs. They were finally dismissed for 132.

Zahid was the top scorer for Salmiya with 28. He hit five fours. Asif 22 and Tanveer and Aslam with 20 each were the



Jamil: scored 42

only other batsmen to do well. Chacha Hameed took the howling honours for QMCC with three wickets for 23. Hameed was well supported by the other bowlers with Sohail taking two wickets. Sadaqat, Raza and Jamil chipped in with a wicket each.

In the final, QMCC will face Crown Cricket Club at the date to be announced later by the organisers.

## China to host women's soccer tourney

GUANGZHOU, March 8, (Xinhua): China will host the inaugural international Women's Soccer Championship in China's southern province of Guangdong from June 1 to 12.

This was announced by Miguel Galan, head of the competition department of the International Football Federation (Fifa), at a press conference here yesterday.

The formation of the championship's organising committee was also announced, with Fifa executive committee member Henry Ying Tung Fok as its honorary chairman and vice-governor Lu Zhonghe of Guangdong province as the chairman.

The championship, co-sponsored by Fifa, Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and Chinese Football Association, will draw 12 teams from the Netherlands, Canada, Cote d'Ivoire, Thailand, Norway, Australia, Brazil, Japan, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, the United States and host China.

The participating teams will be divided into three groups for round-robin preliminaries to be held in four cities — Guangzhou, Fushan, Jiangmen and Panyu.

## IOC face anxiety over Budd affair

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, March 8, (Kuna): Olympic officials are becoming increasingly concerned that African countries may threaten to boycott the September Olympiad in Seoul. South African-born athlete Zola Budd is included in the British team.

Having been able to relax after the main socialist countries decided to take part in the Summer Olympics despite a North Korean appeal for a stay-away, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) now faces several months of anxiety over the Budd affair.

Although the IOC here has not received any official warning of a boycott from the African Sports Council, it seems highly probable that if and when Budd is selected for Seoul, major problems will arise.

Already African countries are being urged to stay away from the forthcoming World Cross-country Championships, due to be held in New Zealand from March 26, because Budd will be competing.

## Question

While the International Amateur Athletics Federation does not apparently question her British credentials, the African sports authorities do.

Last week's decision to this effect was delivered to the British authorities after a meeting in Cameroon of the African Sports Council.

The conservative British government rushed through Budd's application for UK nationality in time to allow her to compete in the 1984 Los Angeles Games, despite protests from anti-apartheid groups.

Since then the long-distance runner has spent far more time with her family in South Africa than in Britain.

African countries stayed away from the 1976 Montreal Olympics in protest over New Zealand's participation in the Games following a rugby tournament it had played with South Africa.

## Alboreto sets pace in tyre tests

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 8, (Reuters): Italian Michele Alboreto, driving a Ferrari, set the pace on the first day of Formula One tyre tests at the Jacarepagua motor racing circuit.

Alboreto clocked the best lap time of one minute 30.60 seconds, almost one second quicker than Australian teammate Gerhard Berger.

"The car looks good but I think it can still get better," said Alboreto.

Reigning world champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil was third fastest in his new Lotus. He was followed by the two Benetton of Italian Alessandro Nannini and Belgian Thierry Boutsen, with Briton Nigel Mansell sixth quickest in a Williams.

The Brazilian Grand Prix on April 3 will mark the start of the 1988 Formula One season.

## Soviet soccer season kicks off

MOSCOW, March 8, (Reuters): The Soviet First Division soccer season kicked off yesterday with a 2-1 win for Dynamo Tbilisi over Zhalgiris Vilnius.

The first goal of the 1988 season was scored by Zhalgiris defender Arminas Narbekovas, a member of the Soviet Olympic team. But Dynamo hit back with two second half goals.

Other opening games will be played in the next three days, with Spartak Moscow, Dynamo Kiev, Dnepr Dnepropetrovsk and Zhalgiris expected to dominate the season.

## Golf rankings

LONDON, March 8, (Reuters): American Ben Crenshaw's one-shot victory in the Doral Open on Sunday lifted him two places to seventh in the world golf rankings issued today and approved by the Royal and Ancient Club.

Australian Greg Norman remains the clear leader after his win in the inaugural Tournament Players' Championship in Sydney at the weekend.

## Iraq win

IRAQ beat Kuwait 1-0 in a 9th Gulf Football Championship match in Saudi Arabia yesterday. The only goal of the match was scored in the first half of the game.

In the second match played yesterday, Qatar beat United Arab Emirates 2-1. The half-time score was 1-1.

## Mukesh takes Siddique past Young Star



Mukesh: seven for 14

SIDDIQUE Cricket Club beat Young Star by 125 runs in a Capri Trophy match at the Fahaheel ground on Friday.

Siddique, after winning the toss, elected to bat and put on 215 for the loss of nine wickets in their 30 allotted overs. Zafar, Sharif and Amjed batted well with Sharif hitting 89.

In reply, Young Star found the going tough against some accurate bowling from Mukesh and were all out for 90 in the 23rd over. Mukesh tormented all the batsmen and returned figures of seven for 14.

## One-handed pitcher clinches Sullivan award

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 8, (Reuters): Jim Abbott, a pitching star from the University of Michigan who was born with one hand, yesterday won the James Sullivan Memorial Award as the nation's most outstanding amateur athlete for 1987.

It was the first time in the 58-year history of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) award that a baseball player was honoured.

Abbott, 20, was one of 10 finalists selected from a field of 37 nominated for the award that is named for a co-founder of the 100-year-old AAU.

The other finalists included hurdler Greg Foster, boxer Kelcie Banks, swimmer Janet Evans, gymnast Scott Johnson and basketball star David Robinson, who was favoured to win.

Lost

Abbott won two games pitching for the US national team that took the silver medal at last summer's Pan American Games. The US lost the gold to Cuba.

He was also the first American pitcher in 25 years to beat the world champion Cubans in Havana last July.

The award was presented to Abbott by last year's winner — athletics star Jackie Joyner-Kersey.

"I'm in shock," said Abbott after receiving a standing ovation from the crowd of 1,100 at the Indiana Convention Centre.

## Pakistan outplay Australia in Cup

SYDNEY, March 8, (Reuters): Australia suffered their first defeat in the World Youth Cricket Cup today, beaten by 32 runs by Pakistan, but qualified comfortably for the semifinals.

On Friday they will meet England, who held on to fourth place in the qualifying round-robin competition, beating New Zealand by 39 runs.

**Scoreboard**  
The other semifinal, on Thursday, will be between Pakistan and the West Indies, who predictably handed out a hiding to the International Cricket Conference Associates.

The Australians won six of their seven qualifying games, the

West Indies and Pakistan five each and England four.

Any hopes India had of sneaking past England disappeared when they were beaten by Sri Lanka by 50 runs.

In Mildura, Pakistan scored 199 off 49.4 overs while Australia could muster only 167 in 46 overs. The Pakistan spinners surprised the Australian batsmen on a good wicket, with Shahid Anwar best on four for 45 after a useful 49 with the bat.

In Renmark, England made 193 for six with Man of the Match Nasser Hussain top-scoring on 61, and then bowled New Zealand out for 154.

At Wentworth, the West

Indies reached 272 for six and then confined ICC to 149 for seven for a 123-run success.

At Berri, Sri Lanka hit 190 for nine helped by tailenders Sanath Jayasuriya (53), Johanne Samarasekera (42) and Chaminda Fernando (30). India folded at 140 all out.

**Results**  
In Wentworth: West Indies 272 for six wickets off 50 overs, innings closed (J. Adams 65, B. Lara 45), International Cricket Conference Associates 149 for seven innings closed (T. Presney 74 not out). West Indies won by 123 runs.

In Renmark: England 193 for six innings closed (M. Atherton 51, N. Hussain 61), New Zealand 154 in 44.8 overs (C. Lewis four for 35). England won by 39 runs.

In Berri: Sri Lanka 190 for nine innings closed (S. Jayasuriya 53, J. Samarasekera 42, S. Banerjee three for 19, N. Hirwarai three for 47), India 140 in 28.2 overs. Sri Lanka won by 50 runs.

In Mildura: Pakistan 199 in 49.4 overs (Shahid Anwar 49, W. Holdsworth four for 36), Australia 167 in 47.2 overs (Shabid Anwar four for 45, Mushaq Ahmed three for 42). Pakistan won by 32 runs.

Final standings (tableau under, played, won, lost, points, run rate)

Australia 7 5 2 10 3.71  
West Indies 7 5 2 10 3.36  
Pakistan 7 5 2 10 3.19  
England 7 3 4 6 2.95  
Sri Lanka 7 3 4 6 2.95  
India 7 3 4 6 2.95  
New Zealand 7 2 5 4 3.52  
ICC Assoc 7 0 7 0 2.97

(Semifinals: Thursday — West Indies v Pakistan, Friday — Australia v England). Final to be played on Sunday.



Torrance (right) with companion Susan Dando at the opening ceremony. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Zia opens showpiece UAE golf course

DUBAI, March 8, (Reuters): Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq teed off today with a gold-plated club delivered by parachute to open Dubai's showpiece \$10 million golf course.

Rolling green fairways, lakes and trees have been laid out in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) desert to create what one golf professional dubbed "a giant green surrounded by the world's biggest bunker".

International British golf stars Sam Torrance and Howard Clark will play Australians Rodger Davis and Graham Marsh in a \$150,000 inaugural tournament starting tomorrow. Course managers aim to host

major PGA tournaments in coming years in a part of the world where the sport is virtually unknown except among expatriates.

Zia, a keen golfer with an 18 handicap, was in the UAE on a private visit to open the course.

In a colourful ceremony attended by hundreds of local and foreign dignitaries, a parachutist dropped 2,000 feet from a helicopter to hand the Pakistani leader the gold-plated club and a gold tee-peg.

Plans to use a solid gold club were scrapped because it would have been too heavy. The club was later presented to Zia when he opened the lavish marble-floored clubhouse.

## Organisers revise timings for Kuwait rally

THE organisers of the Kuwait International Rally, which will be held on March 17 and 18 have made a further time change in order to ensure that no driver suffers unduly from the fact that the rally has already been brought forward by two hours.

This earlier change was necessitated by clash between an important football match and the rally start. The rally now starts on March 17 at 1.00pm.

Wael Khoury, chairman of the Organising Committee and Clerk of the Course explained that he had been concerned that the revised timings would give the lead cars the advantage of driving the entire first leg in daylight. Lower seeded drivers would be at a disadvantage as they would be driving at least some of the second loop in the dark.

**Decided**  
In order to even things up, the committee has decided to have an extra long break after three stages. This way, all cars will complete the stages once in daylight and once in the dark.

"This decision has been made with the benefit of the drivers in mind," said a spokesman for the club. Drivers are expected to spend the break between loops at



Al Wazzan (left) and Eid Falah.

Entertainment City. The timings for the second day are not affected.

This rally is expected to bring out the best in veterans and newcomers alike.

Mariboro's Mohammed Bin Sulayem will be aiming to improve on last year's 2nd place. He and new co-driver Ronan Morgan, who drove for Sulayem's Qatari rival Al Hajri last season, are expected to arrive in Kuwait at the end of the week and to begin their practice

immediately.

A win here will set him well on the way to his third Middle East championship title. However, the young Emirati driver is inclined towards caution. "We are aiming for the championship. The championship is more important to me than any individual rally," he said.

Sulayem knows that Al Hajri will fight all the way to prove that his own winning days are not yet over, and the powerful Audi Quattro will give him an advan-

tage over the Celica. This new car, which Al Hajri drove into second place in the Qatar rally last year, is not only the most powerful car in the rally, it also has 4wd which will give it an advantage in places on the route where there is soft sand, and in the event of rain.

Mariboro is also backing two leading Kuwaiti drivers, veteran Tareq Al Wazzan, and promising youngster Eid Falah. Wazzan is a former Kuwait champion, and came second in the KT Club's first international in 1978. He was the first Arab driver to drive outside the Gulf region, and despite a break from the sport, is well-known throughout the region. Al Wazzan is aiming for a top five position and this is well within his grasp.

Despite the comparative lack of power, he has chosen to enter the red and white Range Rover. "I drove the Range Rover in the last local rally," he said. "I looked at the times set by the drivers of the powerful cars, and they weren't outpacing me. On the other hand the Range Rover will give me strength on the first leg of the rally where it is very rough in places."

Eid Falah has followed Wazzan's example. This talented

driver proved capable of taking a fastest stage time in last year's rally, before being forced to drop back with sump problems. He will be aiming to prove himself in this event, the highspot of the Kuwaiti calendar.

The rally has been designed to test co-drivers as well as drivers, and the Marlboro drivers both have among the best Kuwait can offer. Khalid Khalifa, who partners Wazzan, formerly co-drove for Michel Saleh, and Sadeq Ashkanani was Champion Navigator twice, and took his former partner Zafri to victory in the Kuwait International in 1981.

## Determined

Falah and Wazzan cannot expect to have things all their own way. Ahmed Al Hilal, Mohammed Al Hussein and Ahmed Al Zafri are all equally determined to be the first Kuwaitis home, as this event also forms the second round of the National Championship.

Over forty entries have been received by the organisers, with teams from Bahrain and Qatar, including Abbas Al Mousawi, Sultan Al Sowaidi and Mubarak Al Hajri. Michel Saleh will also be continuing his bid for this year's championship.

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